



The 113th IEEE Region 8 Committee Meeting

12-13 of October 2019
Valencia

Agenda Book



This document contains the Agenda Book for the The 113th IEEE Region 8 Committee Meeting. Due to the technical constraints when compiling this document from over 111 individual reports, the layout of some reports may have been slightly modified. You will find an electronic version of this document, together with the original version of each report on <http://www.ieee.org/r8>. Feel free to contact Miguel Castanheira Marques (miguel.castanheiramarques@edp.com) with related questions.

The following is from the IEEE Policies, Section 7 - Professional Activities (Part A - IEEE Policies).

7.8 IEEE Code of Ethics

We, the members of the IEEE, in recognition of the importance of our technologies in affecting the quality of life throughout the world, and in accepting a personal obligation to our profession, its members and the communities we serve, do hereby commit ourselves to the highest ethical and professional conduct and agree:

- 1) to accept responsibility in making decisions consistent with the safety, health, and welfare of the public, and to disclose promptly factors that might endanger the public or the environment;
- 2) to avoid real or perceived conflicts of interest whenever possible, and to disclose them to affected parties when they do exist;
- 3) to be honest and realistic in stating claims or estimates based on available data;
- 4) to reject bribery in all its forms;
- 5) to improve the understanding of technology; its appropriate application, and potential consequences;
- 6) to maintain and improve our technical competence and to undertake technological tasks for others only if qualified by training or experience, or after full disclosure of pertinent limitations;
- 7) to seek, accept, and offer honest criticism of technical work, to acknowledge and correct errors, and to credit properly the contributions of others;
- 8) to treat fairly all persons and to not engage in acts of discrimination based on race, religion, gender, disability, age, national origin, sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression;
- 9) to avoid injuring others, their property, reputation, or employment by false or malicious action;
- 10) to assist colleagues and co-workers in their professional development and to support them in following this code of ethics.

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Agenda

Friday, 11 October 2019

Time	Duration	#	Type	Item	Presenter
16:00	2:00:00			Registration Open	
18:00	0:05:00			Director's Address	Magdalena Salazar
18:05	0:25:00			Spain Section presentation and awards	Jesus Fraile Ardanuy
18:30	2:00:00			Workshop "THE OPPORTUNITIES OF BUILDING IEEE STANDARDS FOR EUROPE, MIDDLE EAST AND AFRICA"	
20:30	0:30:00			Welcome Reception	
21:00	02:00:00			Welcome Dinner- Dress Code: Business Casual	

Saturday, 12 October 2019

Time	Duration	#	Type	Item	Presenter
7:00	1:00:00			Breakfast	
8:00	0:05:00	100	Procedural	Call to Order	Magdalena Salazar
8:05	0:15:00	101	Procedural	Roll Call and Introduction of New Officers	Ana Madureira / Magdalena Salazar
8:20	0:05:00	102	Procedural	Welcome by Spain Section	Jesus Fraile Ardanuy
8:25	0:05:00	103	Procedural	Introductory Remarks	Magdalena Salazar
8:30	0:05:00	104	Action	Approval of Consent the Agenda	Magdalena Salazar
8:35	0:05:00	105	Action	Approval of the Agenda	Magdalena Salazar
8:40	0:30:00	106	Discussion	IEEE Region 8 Director's Address	Magdalena Salazar
9:10	0:30:00	107	Discussion	IEEE Past President's Address	Jim Jefferies
9:40	0:10:00	108	Discussion	IEEE Executive Director and COO Address	Stephen Welby
10:10	0:10:00	109	Discussion	IEEE Region 1: Identifying Member Journeys and Interface Points for Engagement	Babak Dastgheib-Beheshti
10:20	0:10:00	109	Discussion	IEEE Region 7 Director's Address	Maike Luiken
10:30	0:20:00			Coffee Break	
10:50	2:00:00	111	Workshop	IEEE Inspiring Leaders event	Jesus Fraile Ardanuy
12:50	1:30:00			Social Lunch	
14:20	0:30:00	201	Discussion	IEEE VP, MGAB, IEEE Managing Director, MGA: Strategies & Directions	Francis Grosz / Cecelia Jankowski
14:50	0:10:00	202	Discussion	Strategic Planning Committee	Antonio Luque / Martin Bastiaans
15:00	0:30:00	203	Discussion	Student Activities	Maciej Borowka
15:30	0:20:00			Coffee Break	
15:50	0:45:00	204	Discussion	Member Activities	Adeel Sultan
16:45	0:15:00	205	Discussion	IEEE Foundation and Life Members	Charles Turner - IEEE LM Committee Chair
16:50	0:10:00	206	Discussion	Nominations and Appointments Report and Election Instructions	Vera Markovic
17:00	0:15:00	207	Discussion	Presentations of VCs Candidates	Vera Markovic
17:15	0:05:00	208	Executive Session	Voting	Vera Markovic
17:20	0:05:00	209	Discussion	Presentation of election results	Margaretha Eriksson

17:30	0:05:00	210	Procedural	Closing of day one	Magdalena Salazar
17:15	0:05:00	211	Social	Group photo	Ana Madureira

Saturday Afternoon, 12 October 2019

18:30	0:10:00	Social	Meeting Point: Outside Hotel		
18:40	01:30:00	Social	Valencia Tour by Bus with Guide		
20:10	02:45:00	Social	Gala Dinner at La Ferradura Restaurant / Awards Ceremony		
22:55	0:10:00	Social	Bus Drive to Hotel		
23:05		Social	Arrival to Barceló Valencia Hotel		

Sunday, 13 October 2019

Time	Duration	#	Type	Item	Presenter
7:00	1:00:00		Breakfast	Breakfast	
8:00	0:05:00	300	Procedural	Call to Order and Roll Call	Magdalena Salazar
8:05	0:35:00	301	Discussion	Technical Activities	Sohaib Sheikh
8:40	0:05:00	302	Info	Upcoming Flagship Conferences	Ljupco Karazdinov
8:45	0:20:00	303	Discussion	IEEE Collabratec - Region 8 Performance	John Day
9:05	0:20:00	304	Discussion	IEEE R8 Director-Elect Candidates Presentations	Costas Stasopoulos: Igor Kuzle / Vin Piuri
9:25	0:10:00	305	Discussion	IEEE R8 Director-Elect Candidates Q&A	All
09:35	0:10:00	306	Executive Session	Discussion and voting	
09:45	0:05:00	307	Discussion	Presentation of the voting results	Costas Stasopoulos
09:50	0:15:00	308	Discussion	Africa Council Update	Habib Kammoun
10:05	0:15:00	309	Discussion	IEEE Membership Dues - Payment by Installment Option	Adeel Sultan / Sohaib Sheikh
10:20	0:20:00		Coffee Break		
10:40	0:20:00	310	Discussion	Treasurer and Finance Committee Report	Adam Jastrzebski
11:00	0:30:00	311	Discussion	2020 Budget Proposal	Adam Jastrzebski
11:30	0:30:00	312	Discussion	Concur Reimbursement System Presentation	Adam Jastrzebski
12:00	0:10:00	313	Discussion	IEEE Sections Congress	Costas Stasopoulos
12:10	0:20:00	314	Motions	Motions Presentation, Discussion, and Voting	Antonio Luque
12:30	0:05:00	315	Discussion	New Business	All
12:35	0:05:00	316	Discussion	Call for Proposals for Incoming R8 Committee Meetings	Antonio Luque
12:40	0:10:00	317	Discussion	Invitation to Next Region 8 Committee Meeting	Mariusz Malinowski
12:50	0:05:00	318	Discussion	Closing Remarks	Magdalena Salazar Palma
12:55	0:05:00	319	Procedural	Adjournment	Magdalena Salazar Palma
13:00	1:00:00		Social	Lunch	

Consent Agenda

Consent Agenda		
401	Action	Approval of the minutes of the 112th Region 8 Committee meeting
402	Report	Reports

List of Participants

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Algeria Section	Abdelouhab Mekhaldi	wamekhaldi@yahoo.fr	Section Chair
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Saudi Arabia (East) Section	Mohammad Al-Muhaini	muhaini@kfupm.edu.sa	Section Chair
Zambia Section	Simon Muwowo	smuwowo@zesco.co.zm	Section Chair

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New Journals	Will not attend		
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Assistant Secretary - Social Media & Webpage	Dora Fourou	dfourou@gmail.com	
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Student Representative	Georgios Papadimitriou	george.papadimitriou@ieeer8.org	
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History Activities Coordinator	Will not attend		
Humanitarian Activities Coordinator	Will not attend		
Life Members Coordinator	Victor Fouad-Hanna	victor.fouad@ieee.org	
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Region Vitality Coordinator	Will not attend		
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Voluntary Contribution Fund Coordinator	Andreas Koltes	koltes@ieee.org	
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Unapproved Minutes of the 113th IEEE Region 8 Committee Meeting held on 12-13 of October 2019 in Valencia, Spain

100 Call to Order

Region 8 Director Magdalena Salazar Palma calls the committee to order and opens the 112th IEEE Region 8 Committee meeting by welcoming all delegates. She then asks the R8 Secretary, Ana Maria Madureira, if there is a quorum. The secretary confirms the quorum.

101 Roll Call and Introduction of New Officers

Director Salazar Palma highlights the presence of a number of guests, namely, President José Moura, Vice President MGA, Francis Grosz, President-Elect candidates, Region 7 and Region 10 Directors, MGA Managing Director, Past VP MGA, and IEEE Technical Field Awards Council Chair. All Section representatives introduce themselves by stating their name, the Section they represent and their respective position. All other attendees introduce themselves by stating their name and the function they have within IEEE.

102 Welcome by Malta Section

Conrad Attard, Malta Section Chair, welcomes all to Valletta, Malta, and describes among other points, the social events that will be held.

103 Introductory Remarks

None.

104 Approval of the Agenda

Kenya Section and Benelux Section representatives ask about the results of the questionnaire done at the end of the 111th Region 8 Committee Meeting, in Belgrade, Serbia, regarding the possible reduction of Sub Committees. Director Salazar Palma says that she will address that issue in her report. The motion to accept the agenda is put forward by the Director Salazar Palma. It is approved unanimously.

105 Approval of the Consent Agenda

The consent agenda consists of the approval of the minutes of the 111th meeting in Belgrade, as well as the approval of the OpCom member reports, the Sub Committee reports and the Section reports. A motion to accept the consent agenda is put forward and approved unanimously.

The motion to approve the consent agenda passes.

106 IEEE Region 8 Director's Address

Director Salazar Palma presents her report, starting with a word of thanks to everybody involved in the organization of the 112th IEEE Region 8 Committee meeting for their work:

- Conrad Attard, Malta Section Chair, and his team of volunteers
- Ana Madureira, Region 8 Secretary
- Miguel Castanheira Marques, Region 8 Assistant Secretary
- Antonio Luque, Region 8 Director Elect
- George Michael, Electronic Communications Coordinator
- Maria Efthymiou, Electronic Communications Assistant

R8 Director highlights next that Region 8 membership has increased by 1.5%, while reaching a high number of Operational Units (58 Sections, 10 Subsections, more than 400 Chapters, 675 Student Branches, and 220 Affinity Groups). She then mentions several R8 achievements in terms of YP, WIE, and Student activities, and the various IEEE and MGAB awards received by R8 individuals or teams. Next, Director Salazar Palma presents her goals for 2019-2020:

- In general: Support R8 Vice Chairs, Sub Committees, and Africa Council
- Concrete goals are: Financial plan to support increased activities of the Sub Committees;

Membership including Students; Technical Activities; Support Africa Council; Increase R8 visibility and Increase R8 member and OUs recognition Director Salazar Palma reports also some of the topics dealt with during the following meetings:

- IEEE BoD Retreat, held in Porto, January 2019: New memberships model, Financial transparency, Diversity, inclusion and professional ethics)
- IEEE MGAB meeting, and IEEE BoD meeting, held in Tampa, USA, February 2019.

Finally, Director Salazar Palma presents and describes the the various R8 Sub Committees, and those which can be merged.

107 Discussion - IEEE President's Address

IEEE President José Moura starts his address briefly describing his biography and his professional profile. Then he:

- Describes IEEE mission highlights its geographic diversity and presents some statistics;
- Highlights the role of IEEE in "Changing Our World" referring to some Nobel Laureates; presents some new IEEE Technical Communities (e.g., Blockchain) and describes other challenges to the future, and some efforts on standards development;
- Makes some considerations about "Where to go from here, Think about the future":
 - New areas

- IEEE is a strategic organization
- Major concern: How to better serve professionals in the future?

Reflects about membership challenges: IEEE is big, can it grow further???? Become very big What if IEEE can reach 4 million members?

- Opportunity: To dramatically increase IEEE membership.
- Innovative membership model: Merging a fee-based association model (IEEE) and a social/professional network model (e.g., Facebook, LinkedIn)

President Moura informs of several Ad Hoc Committees he has appointed:

- Membership (Co-Chairs: VP MGA, Grosz and VP TAB, Liu): To analyze the new possible membership models and the value offered to different segments as well as the infrastructure needed;
- Diversity & Inclusion and Professional Ethics;
- Financial Transparency;
- Publications and Open Access;
- Open IEEE Governance.

President Moura mentions some additional issues:

- Activities developed to address the interests of all members and specially form industry.
- Tools to engage industrial members
- Other services that IEEE can provide to its members
- Recognitions for industry members:

Egypt Section representative asks the President about any possibility to have discounts or free fees for needed countries.

108 IEEE Region 7 Director's Address

Maike Luiken, IEEE Region 7 Director, makes some considerations about IEEE R7 and IEEE Canada. She starts by presenting herself and stating her commitment to "A Better World for All". She believes that interaction is the catalyst for Innovation and Education is the catalyst for Sustainability. She identifies Region 7 from the geographical point of view - a Region which encompasses a Country. She presents some statistics highlighting its significant growth in membership during 2018. She mentions that IEEE Sections Congress will come again to Canada in August 2020 in Ottawa. She informs that the journal IEEE Canadian Review will be delivered electronically for all IEEE Canada members, including students; and about some events that were held for the first time in Canada:

- WIE TECHW, held in September, 2018, in Vancouver
- The Pacific North West Young Professionals Workshop, held in August, 2018, in Vancouver.
- WIE International Leadership Summit, held in September 2018, in Toronto

Other events were STEMpowered Leadership, Student Congress; Young Professionals Congress, and tMultigeneration Workshop, led by Life Members. Director Luiken presents the IEEE Canadian Foundation as a Philanthropic Partner of IEEE Canada. She describes some success stories (University of Waterloo Sailbot, University of Victoria Hybrid Management System, McMaster McNaughton Learning Resource Centre), the IEEE Canadian Foundation Nick Cercone Graduate Scholarship in Computer Science and the IEEE Canadian Foundation Dr. Robert T.H Alden Scholarship). She makes some reflections about Professional Security and the potential value of IEEE Inspire, Engage, Encourage, and Empower. Director Luiken enunciates some attitudes which can help:

- Meet - Network - Train - Learn from each other
- Meet locally - A place to work and invite other students
- Get recognized
- Have fun
- Be reachable - ConnectedONNECTED - Reach out to others
- Be seen - Be visible - to colleagues, friends, the community
- Engage in projects - 'do things together' - have a goal
- Be heard

Director Luiken recommends one value: professional security, not job security. She identifies current practices, congresses, regional events and awards dedicated to students, YP, WIE, Life Members, Student and Industry. She makes suggests that they should have a technical/professional and also a social component, like Face-to-Face Events, Hot topic events (Blockchain, Cyber Security, AI ..), Projects / Events, Work with other IEEE groups (EA, Societies, Standards), Have a Plan, and Communicate it, with relevance, timely, and to the point, using, for example, IEEE Collabratec. Director Luiken identifies the stakeholders to build a better IEEE Canada, i.e., IEEE Canada 21.0

109 IEEE Region 10 Director's Address

IEEE Region 10 Director, Akinori Nishihara, starts his address thanking the invitation to attend this meeting. R10 Director presents Region 10 membership and its OUs. He gives a brief history of R10 funded in 1963. He mentions several R10 events:

- First Sections Congress in Region 10 (Sydney) in 2017;
- Region 10 Booth in Sections Congress 2017;
- 2018 IEEE Region 10 Annual Meeting;
- 2018 R10 SYWL Congress in Bali;
- TENCON 2018 in Jeju, Korea; and 2019 Region 10 ExCom.

He reminds that the current IEEE President-Elect is from Region 10 - Toshio Fukuda. He describes R10 main areas of focus:

- Continue to establish IEEE Geo Units;
- Leverage activities of geographical units;
- Upturn member retention rates (including students);
- Strengthen the quality of conference content and organization; Industry relations; and Entrepreneurship.
- Identify problems with Student Branches targeted for probation.

Director Nishihara states that R8 and R10 have many similarities: 2 largest regions; 58 Sections; extremely diverse and with tremendous vitality.

IEEE President-Elect's Address

Toshio Fukuda, 2019 IEEE President-Elect, connects by Skype and warmly salutes everybody. He points out some ideas to create value for the IEEE members.

110 Procedural - Introduction to Poster Session

Region 8 Director introduces the Poster Sessions. The first one consists of posters from each R8 Sub Committee plus a poster from 2018 R8 SYP. This session take place during the next Coffee Break in the Exhibition Hall - Level 2. The second and third poster sessions consists of posters from each Section. The intention is to demonstrate the ideas, the successful initiatives, the developed projects, and the good practices followed in the various Sections, which could help to explain the Section dynamics to the Committee. The focus is strongly on interaction, sharing ideas and good practices. There will be a selection, by the fellow committee members, of the best idea/project/success activity in the following categories: Closer to Industry; Attract and Support Future Members; Section Vitality; and IEEE in Africa. The best poster in each category, will be given some time to be presented orally.

111 Poster Session (Exhibition Hall - Level 2) + Coffee Break

R8 Committee members are invited to visit the first session of posters from R8 Subcommittees plus the R8 SYP Poster during the coffee break. Posters can be found on the meeting site.

112 Discussion - Student Activities (SA)

Region 8 Student Activities Vice Chair, Maciej Borówka, presents the members of the SA Sub Committee. Then, he presents the defined points of the R8 SA agenda: Goals:

- Be the voice of the R8 Students
- Help to foster closer collaboration with Sections
- Deliver information about the wide variety of Student Activities & Events and provide assistance when necessary;
- Approach and collaborate with other Global/R8 Subcommittees (YP, AfI, WIE, LM) to increase the industry involvement at the student level. Each team member delivers a brief report of the developed activities.

Each team member delivers a brief report of the developed activities.

Student Paper Contest

Paul Micallef, Student Paper Contest Coordinator, describes the IEEE R8 Student Paper Contest (objectives, methodology and context), presents some statistics about 2018 submissions and the short list of five finalist papers to be presented during EUROCON 2019 in Novi Sad, Serbia.

Student Branches Student Branch Chapters

Sarra Ben Rabii, Student Branch Chapters Coordinator, on behalf also of ngela Martinez, Student Branch Coordinator, describes their vision for Student Branches Student Branch Chapters, namely, an easier and more efficient communication between Region 8, R8 SAC and Students. She enunciates their goals based on the assumption that Students are the heart of IEEE and Student Branch Chapters keep the Student Branches alive. Strategies include: To contact the dormant Student Branches via Social Media and personalized emails; Spread the information about reporting requirements (Big changes, business plan + 4 separates reports); Prevent SB Chapters dissolution due to inactivity of parent SB; Address SAMIEEE issues.

Electronic Communications

Mohammad Hossein Babae, Electronic Communications Coordinator, identifies the objectives for social media channels (Instagram - reach 5K followers; Facebook - reach 11K likes; Webpage - reach 5K followers; LinkedIn will come soon).

Awards and Contests

Lee Crudginton, Awards and Contests Coordinator, describes the process of submission for the following awards and stimulates Committee members to promote submissions:

- Exemplary Student Branch Award (Recognition of Regional High-Performing Student Branches, Unlimited number of awards available)
- Larry K. Wilson Student Activity Award (Recognition of Regional Extraordinary Student Member, One award per Region)
- Outstanding Branch Counsellor (Recognition of Exceptional and Dedicated Counsellors, Approximately 20 awards available)
- Darrell Chong Student Activity Award (Recognition of Value-Driven Activities Worldwide; Platinum, Gold, Silver and Bronze awards available)

The awards campaign for 2019 is announced in: students.ieee.com/awards. Submission deadline: 31st March 2019. Nominations should be done via: ieee-student-awards.myreviewroom.com

Projects and Initiatives

Rawane El Jamal, Projects and Initiatives Coordinator, gives some hints and describes new ideas considering as main objectives:

- For the members and by the members
- New theme, different every year
- Technical competition to create social, economic or environmental impact

Ahmed Al Omoush describes the Young Professionals Liaison and Industry Focus activities in collaboration with the Action for Industry Sub Committee to enable students to participate on contests from various companies in different fields, and to provide special internships opportunities for members.

Cross-Sectional Congresses (2019) R8 SYP Congress (2020)

George Papadimitriou, R8 Student Representative, describes: the achievements related to Cross-Sectional Congresses, namely R8 Cross-Sectional Student and Young Professional Congress Manual has been extended:

- 2 proposals from Poland Section and Serbia Montenegro Section have been received to organize the Central European SYP, CEuSYP
- Other congresses have open calls
- Region 8 Student and Young Professional Congress (2020): the Call for Proposals Timeline is presented
- The Network of Regional Student Representatives for collaboration on major IEEE projects

At the end of the presentation a comment is made about the need of a better divulgation of Student activities, awards and contests.

113 Discussion - Member Activities (MA)

Region 8 Membership Activities Vice Chair, Adeel Sultan, starts his report by describing the Key Focus & Objectives of MA:

- Focus revolves around Members (Member Satisfaction, Engagement, Appreciation & Growth are the key priorities)
- To establish efficient coordination among the various Sub Committees whose primary goal is to engage members by providing them the initiatives and programs of non-technical nature.
- To encourage and facilitate volunteering among all members, so that new activities and programs can be initiated and maintained.

Adeel Sultan requests Sub Committees Chairs to present their report. He emphasizes that MA focus and scope is based on communication and collaboration.

Young Professionals (YP)

Vinko Lesic describes R8 YP related topics and activities:

- What are they? Ambitious young people
- What do Young Professionals do? They launch careers and are interested on integration of Professional, Technical and Entrepreneurial parts
- Membership distribution in R8
- Presents the Young Professionals Programs describing the funding opportunities, member benefits and YP programs
- Presents Young Professionals Sub Committee members
- Describes the timeline for 2019 and the various events and activities

Membership Development (MD)

Ievgen Pichkalov presents the MD Sub Committee members and the MD SC main goals:

- Coordination, informing, teaching and guiding of Sections MD officers;
- Serving as a main MD information hub for members and volunteers;
- Ensuring and coordinating the information flow and MD activities in Region 8.

He describes some sub-goals for 2019 and presents statistics highlighting Recruitment and Retention. He also informs about the call for the organization of the 2019R8 MD workshop. Three proposals (Kuwait, Lithuania, Portugal) have been selected. The process is ongoing.

Women in Engineering (WIE)

Youmna El Bitar, representing WIE Sub Committee Chair, Ana Cigarán, describes the activities of the WIE SC. She presents Sub Committee members. She describes the main drivers: Vitality; Awareness & Presence; Engagement; Active participation; Direct and continuous contact with members. The status of R8 WIE SC is described identifying some relevant topics:

- Became a standing Sub Committee effective in 2019
- R8 WIE members are distributed among 155 Affinity Groups: 41 Section AGs and 115 Student Branch AGs
- WIE has successfully achieved stronger communication channels, was represented in various SYPs and other IEEE events across R8 and has increased awareness about its programs and activities
- A pilot for new awards recognizing R8 WIE volunteers was successfully carried out in 2018
- The first WIE International Leadership Summit to take place in R8 happened in 2017; 4 Summits followed in 2018. In 2019, two WIE ILS will take place in R8: Porto (Portugal), and Ibadan (Nigeria).

Publications and Communications Sub Committee

Christopher James, Chair of the Publication and Communications SC, presents the SC members and the SC objectives as to effectively and accurately communicate content and information for the benefit of Region 8 members (and beyond). He presents the short term and long-term plans that had been defined. He also presents the communication plan.

Humanitarian Activities Sub Committee

John Funso-Adebayo, Chair of the Humanitarian Activities Sub Committee (HuA SC) presents the SC members and defines the SC mission and main goals. The Mission includes to increase awareness of IEEE HAC programs, funding opportunities and to increase the level of participation by means of assisting, consulting, encouraging local groups and communicating the output of their work. As sub-Goals he identifies the following:

- Increase the number of SIGHT groups and projects
- Ensure a healthy and effective operation of these groups by remaining in contact and monitoring their status regularly
- Work in spreading awareness within and outside IEEE on the funding opportunities offered by IEEE HAC
- Provide management support and proposal writing support to all interested groups in the region
- Standardize the way HuASC operates as a Sub Committee with a sustainable structure.

He describes the short-term and long-term goals considering the main tactic and strategic aspects. He explains that for team communication, for introductory meetings and follow-up training of Humanitarian Ambassadors, they are using WebEx. They will use Trello for project planning. He informs that there is planned to attend all invitations in local SYPs and similar events. He identifies as a critical issue the limited budget of the SC. It is not enough to cover the trip expenses of representatives. He presents future plans and required investment from SIGHT:

- Start partnership with IEEE and non-IEEE organizations interested in Technology and Engineering management.
- Participate in IEEE and non-IEEE events to promote SIGHT.
- Have a booth in regional or global IEEE events.
- Initiate partnership with well-known organizations like Engineers without Borders, Engineers for Change, and IEEE SIGHT

He highlights the need for an upcoming -fresh- generation of volunteers to steer Humanitarian Activities in R8 and he describes a region-wide recruitment process. He finally presents the IEEE R8 HuASC - Extended Committee.

History Activities

Tony Davies, coordinator of the Ad Hoc History Activities Sub Committee (HA SC) describes some of the developed activities:

- The preparation and organizing of HISTELCON2019 in Glasgow, Scotland, 18-19 September 2019.
- IEEE History Milestone plaque for Standardization of Unit of Electrical Resistance (Ohm) has been approved.
- A start has been made on updating and adding entries in the R8 MA part of the website under the History Activities heading.
- More additions and tidying up is needed.
- Several other History Milestone Proposals are well along the path to approval and unveiling.
- Joint project between UK&I and Germany Sections for Milestone to commemorate the first demonstration of radar (1902) to be installed in Köln, Germany
- Other good Milestone Proposals from various Sections of R8 have been suggested and for some a serious start has been made.

Life Members Ad Hoc Sub Committees

Victor Fouad-Hanna, Chair of the Ad Hoc Life Members Sub Committee (LM SC), presents the R8 Life Members Affinity Group (LM AG) Activities in 2018:

- Administrative Status of R8 LM AGs: number of LM AGs and total number of meetings for R8 LM AGs.
- Milestones Activities in R8.
- Results of contacts with Section Chairs in R8.
- Proposal to R8 OpCom to create a LM full committee and to organize a meeting for LM AGs.

Professional Activities (PA) Sub Committee

Mohamed El Dallal, Chair of Professional Activities Sub Committee (PA SC) presents the PA SC members and the SC main objectives, namely, maintaining and enhancing lifelong employability and career maintenance, while providing advice to and collaboration with public bodies, corporations, NGOs and non-profits organizations to benefit the members, their fields of practice, and the general public, while continuing to promote ethical conduct. He then describes the PA Speakers program as the possibility to invite PA speakers to sections to give talks about PA topics such as: Project Management, Entrepreneurship, Time Management, Stress Management, Brand Building, Consulting Skills, Networking, Startups, Marketing, Leadership Skills, Manager Skills, Thesis Writing, Writing Papers, and others. PA SC funds travel, and the Section should support local transportation and accommodation. Mohamed El Dallal, identifies as main goals for PA SC:

- Restructuring the PA Speakers program (new manual and guideline)
- Coordinate Professional Activities in Sections through local Professional Activities leaders
- Establish active contacts with other committees within IEEE R8 and other institutions (Region 8 YP and Afl)
- Setting an offline and online marketing plan for branding

At the end of the various MA Sub Committees presentation there are some questions and suggestions from the audience.

114 Discussion - Technical Activities (TA)

Region 8 Technical Activities Vice Chair, Sohaib Sheikh, starts his report by presenting the various Technical Activities Sub Committees. Then he describes the TA focus:

- On benefits for R8 members
- Efficient and coordinated management
- Revitalization of inactive programs/sub committees
- Increased Collaboration between Sub Committees, with Boards and Sections

Chapters Coordination Sub Committee

Albert Lysko, Chair of Chapters Coordination Sub Committee (ChCSC) starts by presenting the SC members. He mentions that all Division Directors and Society/Council Presidents who are Region 8 members have been invited to be Corresponding members of the ChCSC. Albert Lysko states the goals for 2019 with main focus on revitalizing the SC:

- creating better relationships with Societies for two-way transfer of information
- understanding current state of, and helping R8 Sections, Chapters and Student Chapters
- collecting, sharing and promoting best practices and information relevant to starting, revitalizing and running successful Chapters.

He then presents the Goals KPIs / Targets and the programs to be developed:

- Invite representatives of Societies and Section Chairs to attend the ChCSC meeting, towards developing the Best Practices
- Improve ChC SC visibility using the available channels: web page, eNotice to Chapter and Section Chairs, publish Article(s) in R8 News/R8 Today, have presence in social media
- Collecting the statistics from IEEE web, OU Analytics, VTools and other sources on regular basis
- Collecting information about best practices, inviting Chapter Chairs to share their best practices via IEEE media and their success stories in IEEE and non-IEEE media, getting access to and inviting the Chairs to join the Facebook page

He identifies Some points of progress, emphasizing the effort and the dynamic involved to revitalize ChCSC

Conference coordination SC

Ljupco Karadzinov, Chair of Conference Coordination Sub Committee starts by presenting the SC members. He then presents the Conference Coordination SC goals and the goals KPIs/Targets:

- Regular and timely handling of the TCS requirements, FCS information sharing.
- Recruiting good candidates for R8 flagship conferences, supporting and steering the awarded conferences.
- Reporting to MGA and MCE, good relationship with other regional conference coordinators.
- Explore options for new R8 flagship conferences on trending topics or new geographic areas.
- Explore industry-focused events in collaboration with other R8 sub-committees.

He then mentions some Conference Coordination support programs , namely, some of the available resources, templates, tutorials and webinars at R8 CoCSC web page (<https://ieeer8.org/category/technical-activities/conference-coordination>); the IEEE Center for Leadership Excellence (CLE) website offers training solution, a simpler and effective learning experience (<https://iee-elearning.org/CLE>); the IEEE Conference Organizers' Newsletter offer important information about conference organizing practices, new services and available tools, and the IEEE policy changes (<https://www.ieee.org/conferences/organizers/organizers-newsletter.html>); and the MCE six-months trial Pilot Program for R8 Conference Support. He presents some information related to Conference Coordination SC Progress, namely:

- Flagship conferences in progress
- Bids for next flagship conferences
- Approved TCS and FSC in 2018 in R8
- Initiative for new flagship conferences and industry-focused events
- Statistics related to different type of sponsored conferences

Educational Activities Sub Committee

Stamatis Dragoumanos, Chair of the Educational Activities Sub Committee (EA SC) starts by presenting the SC members. He then presents the EA SC Goals and the Goals KPIs/Targets:

- Merge of Educational Activities and Professional Activities
- Organize Acceleration Contest 2019 with Professional and Continuing Education category included.
- Promote Educational Activities by presenting in most Sectional and Cross-Sectional SYPs, organizing educational workshops and have presence in Flagship Conferences
- Organize at least one webinar with Section Educational Activities officers and promote Educational Activities manual
- Increase engagement in Continuing Education
- Revitalize University Activities
- Keep last year's momentum of Pre-University Activities, increase programs' quality and raise awareness of the importance of engineering to pre-University students

He then describes the EA SC Programs:

- Acceleration Contest 2019
- Pre-University Contest
- TISP Week 2019
- IEEE Entrepreneurships/skills Day

And he concludes his presentation identifying most relevant Educational Activities Sub Committee Progress.

Action for industry (Afl)

Marios Antonious, Chair of Action for industry Sub Committee starts his presentation highlighting the main developments on this SC. Then he describes:

- The IEEE Section Industry Ambassador (SIA) initiative and identifies the objective of expanding the SIA teams to include YPs in industry.
- The Engaging Industry - Internships programs and identifies the main stakeholders. He and describes the Afl internship program and membership development and its benefits
- The Industry partners 50+
- The Internships posting methodology using the Region 8 Facebook to increase visibility

Marios states the EASC Goals and defines the Goals KPIs/Targets:

- Expand AFI to new companies.
- Communicate with companies to seek new internship positions for 2019.
- Organize and participate in industry, entrepreneurship, startup and innovation events in Region 8.
- Mentoring of members who work in industry, entrepreneurs, YPs and students.
- R8 (in 2019 Awards) and IEEE global to include outstanding SIA recognitions for their contribution and results.

He describes the most relevant AFI Sub Committee Programs and the progress achieved:

- Internship Program
- Mentoring program
- Awards
- Entrepreneurship

Marios concludes his presentation by introducing the Action for Industry (AFI) Sub Committee members. Standards Coordination Sub Committee David Law, Chair of Standards Coordination Sub Committee starts by presenting the SC members. He then presents the SC Goals and the Goals KPIs/Targets:

- Build structured program
- Program offerings

He describes the Standards Coordination SC programs and the progress achieved:

- Standards speakers for events and conferences
- Whole standards tracks at events and conferences
- Section and student branch events
- Standards events

TA VC closes the presentation of the various Technical Activities Sub Committees highlighting the need to improve based on suggestions associated to the several Sub Committees mainly the Chapters Coordination Sub Committee in order to add value and revitalize Chapters.

Lunch

200 Call to Order

201 Discussion - IEEE VP, MGAB, IEEE MGA: Strategy Direction / Managing Director, MGAB: Member & Geographic Activities

Francis Grosz, 2019 IEEE Vice President, MGAB, starts his presentation under the general topic "IEEE MGA: Strategy & Focus". He describes MGA Mission & Vision:

- Vision: Ensure Quality Member Opportunities Through Continuous Engagement
- Mission: Inspire, Enable, Empower and Engage Members of IEEE

Then he describes Member and Geographic Activities, the key MGA functions and some of the proposed 2019 MGA Projects. He describes his vision and focus for 2019 always to provide more value to IEEE members:

- Focus on members not in membership
- Members should be a recruiting tool
- Good technical meetings - Chapters are the key
- Other activities, such as short courses and local technical conferences
- Do not forget networking and student engagement opportunities.

He describes the MGA Strategic Planning Areas like: Membership activities; Region representation; MGA organization; Geo Units vitality. He leaves us with a question: "What one thing, other than writing a check, can MGA do to help you and your Section or Chapter become more active and engaged and provide more value to your members?"

Member and Geographic Activities

Cecelia Jankowski, MGA Managing Director, presents a statistic analysis of members and OUs:

- Statistics regarding GeoUnits by Region
- Largest Sections (in R8, United Kingdom and Ireland , Germany, Italy, and France)
- Activities by OU and IEEE membership distribution by Regions
- Top 10 Countries: Total IEEE membership
- IEEE Membership Year, total IEEE membership (taking in account deactivation)
- Total Society membership excluding affiliates

She describes the Top 3 Recommendations from the Member Focus Research Group:

- Focus on improving existing programs
- Communicate more effectively
- Do more locally.

She describes IEEE Collabratec 2019 Update & Direction as the initiative to engage members and students based on: Technical Networking; Knowledge Sharing; Member Recognition. She highlights other points like:

- Advancing IEEE community globally
- R8 Member Engagement Trending
- R8 Member Registrant Trending
- Premium-level services for IEEE Members ...

She then answers some questions from the audience mainly related to membership, reduced membership fees and benefits.

202 Discussion - Publications and Communications Sub Committee

Christopher James, Chair of Publications and Communications Sub Committee starts by presenting the SC members. He then describes the R8 Communications Policy and presents the Publications and Communications SC plans, defines the SC goals and identifies the challenges for the future. He highlights the current offerings of the R8 Publications and Communications SC and presents the project under development, namely, IEEE Sigma, a R8 journal with a technical focus, describing its objective, content and the next steps to make it a reality.

203 Poster session (Exhibition Hall - Level 2) - Poster Session: 1/2 Sections

R8 Committee members are invited to visit the second poster session with posters of half of the Sections. Posters can be found on the meeting site. Interested Committee members are also encouraged to attend a Humanitarian Activities Workshop which is taking place in a different room (Carapeccchia room).

204 Discussion - Leveraging Local Strengths - TA and MGA

Kathy Land, IEEE Past Vice President, Technical Activities, presents how to leverage local strengths reinforcing that IEEE wins when Regions, Sections and Technical Activities work together. She highlights two Important Membership Surveys: the 2016 Membership Segmentation Survey and the 2015 All Societies Research Project (ASRP). She presents some conclusions about a study of major reasons for joining IEEE. The reasons for belonging to a society seems to indicate a desire for service and engagement. The Overall Satisfaction with Societies is considerably higher than with IEEE. She describes the IEEE Collaborative Missions:

- MGA Mission: Ensure quality member opportunities for continuous engagement.
- TAB Mission: To foster the development and facilitate the exchange of scientific and technological knowledge that benefits members, the profession, and humanity; Inspire, Foster and Empower Technology Centric Worldwide Communities.

After that she defines the Section and Chapter Roles and Responsibilities and the TAB & MGA structure concluding about the need to work together to identify the value of what Chapters bring to the organization and how they are an essential communication channel of member value and not just another structure of the organization.

She presents a diagram representing the member view of IEEE - an interesting preview of section, under the region and technical areas. Many members do not realize the full depth and breadth of IEEE. She states that everything is connected but not integrated Antonio Luque asks her for suggestions to improve the status of Chapters in R8. The speaker replies that the Chapter Coordination SC is going in the right direction.

205 Discussion - Vienna Office Activities

Clara Neppel, Senior Director of the IEEE European office in Vienna gives a progress report on the activities of the Vienna office. She first presents the IEEE Technology Centre GmbH, Vienna current staff. Then she proposes the methodology to turning (one-off) users/participants to engaged members towards the 4 million target, considering the four benefits category: Influence, Learn, Recognition and Share. She identifies the most relevant benefits in joining an IEEE community, considering the following: Community; Share your thoughts; Get insights; Learn and grow; Get support: Increase your impact. She presents some examples of current communities supported by the IEEE global office in Vienna: Mobility/Connected and Autonomous Transportation (New formats for engaging industry and broader public); Public Policy (Bridge between policy makers and the technology community); Blockchain (High level events and support local technical communities); Entrepreneurship and Artificial Intelligence (Top-down and bottom-up approach to expand community). Then she explains how to increase the value proposition for membership and attract new members via events and communities they care for. IEEE global office in Vienna works to help volunteers: to start and activity; sourcing experts and policy makers; representing IEEE at an event or industry outreach on current offerings; supporting with standardization, Academy; creating opportunities to be represented at high level events and expert groups; setting up global contacts; helping with new formats; helping to identify global events to raise awareness and recruiting.

206 Poster session (Exhibition Hall - Level 2) - Poster Session: 2/2 Sections + Coffee Break

R8 Committee members are invited to visit the third poster session with posters from the second half of the sections during the coffee break. Posters can be found at the meeting site.

207 Discussion - IEEE Strategic plan 2025-2030: Lessons Learned. How Entrepreneurship finally Caught on within IEEE

Dejan Milojcic, Past Chair of IEEE Industry Engagement Committee, starts his presentation describing the core purpose, mission and vision of the IEEE Strategic Plan for the period 2015-2020. He then presents some 2018-2019 ongoing programs:

- 2018 Launched Program IEEE N3XT Affiliate Event Program
- 2018 Scaled Program IEEE N3XT Stars Program
- 2018 Community IEEE + Entrepreneurship Membership & Social Media
- 2018 Launched Program IEEE N3XT Affiliate Event Program
- 2018 Pilot Program Launch IEEE Entrepreneurship Founder Office Hours
- 2018 Pilot Program Activity IEEE Entrepreneurship
- 2019 Expand 2018 launches and focus on Global Partnerships

He describes the IEEE Entrepreneurship Activities & Events v. the IEEE N3XT Event Series (2018-2019) and IEEE N3XT Affiliate Program Pilot Year (2018-2019). He mentions that the name IEEE N3XT embodies the spirit of engineering-driven technological development by using the root of the word "next," and the numeral "3" to represent the three event pillars: ideas,

innovation, and inspiration. He presents an additional description about IEEE N3XT Stars @ Tech Entrepreneur Competitions (2018-2019).

He pays special attention to the IEEE history of Strategic Plans: 2015-2020 Goals; 2020-2025 Goals (Microtraining, Meetups Meet IEEE Events, IEEEgithub); and 2025-2030 Goals (IEEE Technology Predictions, OAIX (Open AI eXchange) Goes Viral, Grand AI-Cybersecurity Challenge).

He concludes his presentation highlighting what is common for all successful examples of the past 10 years and how IEEE became much more visible to the world, resulting also in growth.

R8 Past Director, Margaretha Erickson, argued that climate change is a great challenge in this context. Some questions from audience also addressed the topic of climate change.

208 Discussion - Strategic Planning Committee

Antonio Luque, Chair of R8 Strategic Planning Sub Committee, presents the goals, mission and vision of the SC as described in R8 Operations Manual. He asks for contributions to the SC from R8 Committee members.

209 Action - Voting for Posters to Be Presented on Stage on Sunday

R8 Director describes the process to be followed for the best poster voting.

The focus should be on interaction, sharing ideas and good practices. The posters will be selected/voted, by the fellow committee members, attending to the best idea/project/success activity in the four following categories: Closer to Industry; Attract and Support Future Members;

Section Vitality; and IEEE in Africa. The best poster in each category, will be given some time to be presented orally on Sunday.

210 Procedural - Closing of day one

Director Magdalena Salazar Palma closes the rst day of the meeting and gives some information regarding the boat tour and the gala dinner.

211 Social - Group photo

300 Procedural - Call to Order and Roll Call

Director Magdalena Salazar Palma welcomes everybody back to the second part of the meeting and then asks the R8 Secretary, Ana Maria Madureira, if there is a quorum. The secretary confirms the quorum. Then Director Salazar Palma informs that Past President Jim Jefferies whose flight was cancelled for weather reasons has sent a video recording with his address to the Committee. Past President Jefferies shares some thoughts related to the importance of volunteers who create value for IEEE, producing papers, organizing conferences developing standards and engaging members. The geographic diversity is well represented in R8 and the social impact trough the development of humanitarian activities permits IEEE be unique in the world - a powerful brand. IEEE Past President wishes us a good meeting.

Then Director Salazar Palma announces the selected best posters in the following categories and congratulates all the winners:

- Closer to Industry: Cyprus
- Attract and Support Future Members: Tunisia
- Section Vitality: Portugal
- IEEE in Africa: Nigeria

301 Discussion - Presentation of Section Poster Voted Best Industry Activity + Discussion

The Cyprus Section representative presents the work associated to the "Closer to Industry" category.

302 Discussion - Presentation of Section Poster Voted Best Membership Activity + Discussion

The Tunisia Section Chair describes the activity developed in order to attract and support future members. The poster identifies 10 points of how success can be achieved.

303 Discussion - Presentation of Section Poster Voted Best Section Vitality Activity + Discussion

Portugal Section Chair describes the activities that supported the Section Vitality trough the activities of several OUs. Previous Section ExCom needs to be credited. Some questions are asked by the audience regarding the Leadership Camp Initiative.

Discussion - Presentation of Section Poster Voted Best Action for Africa + Discussion

Nigeria Section Chair presents some of the activities described in the Section Poster.

305 Discussion - Nominations and Appointments

Margaretha Eriksson, Chair of the Nominations and Appointments Sub Committee, gives an overview of the N&A processes for Region 8 elections and appointments:

- The R8 Director-Elect is elected by R8 voting members. IEEE rules for candidates by petition apply to R8 Director-Elect elections.
- The R8 Secretary, R8 Treasurer and the three R8 Vice Chairs (MA, SA, TA) are elected by the R8 Committee during a R8 Committee meeting. The Secretary and Treasurer are elected for a two-year term, while the three VCs term is one year.
- Appointments are made by the Director or other R8 Officers as specified in R8 Operations Manual or in R8 Bylaws.

During this year, nominations are needed for R8 Director-Elect, and for the three Vice Chairs. The deadline for nominations will be 1 May, 2019.

She concludes by presenting the N&A SC members.

Awards & Recognitions

Awards & Recognitions Margaretha Eriksson, Chair of the Awards & Recognitions Sub Committee, describes all the awards opportunities available: to all R8 volunteers; to Section; YPs; WIE volunteers and As; and MGA awards. She concludes presenting the A&R SC members.

306 Discussion Treasurer's Report

Adam Jastrzebski, R8 treasurer presents some considerations related with current status of regions 8 bank accounts as of 31/12/2018 (Provisional) and the 2018 Summary (Provisional) Income-Expenses Report 2018. After that he characterizes the different sources of incomes and describes the process of preparation of the budget for 2019. Adam identifies some points of concern related with the efficient budget management in Region 8 and proposes the developing of an efficient budget management based on: the budget planning procedures involving Finance Committee; the regular reporting and monitoring of actual expenses; the setting up of effective expense approval process; and providing forecasting. Other Improvements to financial operations could include: the use of an on-line claim system with acknowledgements (Concur could be a solution); the electronic storage of documentation; the IEEE CB cards expenses management and by helping Sections with financial reporting. Adam identifies as main challenges for finances of the region the successful completion of the transition of the financial operations to the new Treasurer; the IEEE internal audit of the Region's 2018 accounts; the reorganizing Treasurer operations to implement the proposed improvements the reducing costs of Committee meetings; and the management of Finance Committee. Some questions from audience arise related with the reimbursement and about the committee meeting expenses and the effort of reducing the costs without affecting the quality of the meetings. Treasurer proposes the motion to approve the budget as presented. The motion is put forward and second by Jordan section chair. Some discussion takes place, mainly on the need to have in consideration the support of subsections. Magdalena clarifies reminding that is already defined in the last update of operational manual. The motion is voted and approved with unanimity. Motion passes.

307 Discussion - Africa Council

Habib M. Kammoun, Africa Council secretary, presents the IEEE Africa Council. Habib starts by a characterization of geographic context of Africa with 54 countries but only 10 IEEE sections and 5 IEEE subsections. He describes IEEE in Africa Strategy, the structure of IEEE Africa Council (formed on 23 June 2018) and the membership. Habib presents the new committee and defines the 2019 Outlooks and concerns taking in consideration the special needs for African citizens like access to Internet and Power still issues for some countries and membership. For future IEEE events Habib requests support and lists some of the most relevant Congresses in Africa. Refers that Africa SYP will be in Tunisia, describes some Humanitarian Activities events and projects, and Women in Engineering (WIE) summits. Habib concludes Africa Council presentation with some highlights.

Coffee Break

308 Discussion - IEEE Technical Awards - Recognizing Technical Excellence and Leadership

Vincenzo Piuri, IEEE Technical Field Awards Council Chair, describes the mission of IEEE Technical Awards, namely, to celebrate technological, leadership and service triumphs in IEEE fields and the people who make them, to inspire future generations of innovators and innovations. He presents also all IEEE Awards:

- IEEE Board-level Awards (Medals, Technical Field Awards, Recognitions)
- IEEE EAB-level Awards
- IEEE MGA-level Awards
- IEEE Region-level Awards
- IEEE Section/Regional Council Level Awards
- IEEE TAB-level Awards IEEE Societies/Technical Councils Level Awards

He mentions some Awards Partnerships and describes the nomination procedure: Who Can Nominate, Be Nominated, or Endorse.

309 Discussion - R8 Flagship Conferences

Ljupco Karazdinov, Conference Coordination Sub Committee Chair, presents the upcoming Region 8 Flagship Conferences:

- Educon 2019 will be held in Dubai, UAE, 9-11 April, 2019.
- Eurocon 2019 will be held in Novi Sad, Serbia, 1-4 July, 2019.
- Histelcon 2019 will be held in Glasgow, Scotland, UK, 18-19 September, 2019.
- Africon 2019 will be held in Accra, Ghana, 25-27 September, 2019.
- Energycon 2020 will be held in Gammarth, Tunisia, 13-16 April, 2020.
- Melecon 2020 will be held in Palermo, Italy, June 16-18, 2020.

310 Action - Motions, Presentation, Discussion, Voting

Antonio Luque, R8 Director-Elect, conducts the presentation, discussion, and voting of the following three motions:

- Motion to approve the merging of the Professional Activities Sub Committee with the Educational Activities Sub Committee. Motion is proposed by OpCom and presented by Sohaib Sheikh, Vice-Chair for Technical Activities. Merging EA SC/PA SC implies an update of the R8 Operational Manual. The approval of this motion implies also the approval to update the Operational Manual. Some discussion about advantages, limitations, financial and operational impact takes place. The motion is voted and approved with six abstentions. Motion passes.
- Motion to approve the formation of the Liberia Subsection with boundaries corresponding to the boundaries of the country of Liberia. The motion is put forward by Region Vitality AdHoc Committee. Some discussion takes place, mainly on future sustainability. The motion is voted and approved with five abstentions. Motion passes.

- Motion to approve the elevation of the Mauritius Subsection to Section with boundaries corresponding to the boundaries of the country of the Republic of Mauritius. The motion is put forward by Region Vitality AdHoc Committee. Some discussion takes place, mainly on future sustainability. The motion is voted and approved with thirteen abstentions. Motion passes.

311 Discussion - Presentations of IEEE President-Elect Candidates

Director Salazar Palma requests R8 Committee member, Costas Stasopoulos, to conduct the IEEE President-Elect Candidates presentations and QA. IEEE President-Elect candidate, Dejan Milojicic, starts his presentation with the identification of the future challenges of IEEE related with technology and how IEEE can create impact on this technology revolution. He presents his vision of IEEE based on three items: 1. Protect, preserve the core (membership) 2. Transition to long-tail (by engagement) 3. Incubate high-end services (by association) He then discusses in more detail these topics. He ends his with a summary of his personal achievements. IEEE President-Elect candidate, Susan "Kathy" Land, starts her presentation showing her vision about the member and organization needs. Her candidacy to IEEE President is based on the following statements: Transparency and Trust Cooperation and Inclusion Financial Transparency

She presents her qualifications and achievements within IEEE and her professional career and justifies how she is well prepared to be IEEE President. She finishes her presentation promising to be a dedicated steward of the position. The Questions and Answers starts with Costas Stasopoulos acting as the moderator. He explains the rules to be followed. Both candidates answered the same questions:

- How do you plan to make IEEE more relevant for members from industry and corporations?
- Should IEEE make a track for Professionals similar to IEEE Fellows that we have mainly for academics and researchers?
- There are some people that think that IEEE may be losing its roots of being a professional organization and we are leaning towards becoming a humanitarian organization, and that we should focus again on the initial concept of serving the profession and the professional members mainly. What is your opinion on that?
- What are your views about advancing technologies through Humanitarian Activities to unserved and underserved locations globally?
- For the already IEEE members, there is an additional membership fee for Women in Engineering. Do you think that this fee should be decreased or canceled?
- What are your plans and your vision for Women in Engineering and what steps do you propose to take to support women working in Industry?
- What are your advantages and disadvantages compared with the other candidate?
- What structures do we have existing in the IEEE Virtual Events (globally) presently and how can you improve what we have presently?

312 Discussion - New Business

Director Salazar Palma presents two new topics within this agenda item. Habib Kammoun, Africa Council Secretary, has proposed two motions to be approved and to be sent to MGAB for approval by the Board:

- Motion to approve IEEE Africa Council Election Timeline as proposed during the Africa Council meeting on Friday, 15 March 2019. The motion is put forward by Habib Kammoun, Africa Council Secretary and seconded by South Africa Section Representative. Some discussion takes place about the pertinence of the motion. A friendly amendment for this motion, by Nigeria Section Chair, requests an exception to the MGA Operations Manual requirement of six (6) months for the first Council Election and asks Region 8 Committee for endorsement of the exception. The amendment is voted and approved with 1 abstention and passes. The motion to approve IEEE Africa Council election timeline is voted and approved. Motion passes.
- Motion to approve as members of IEEE Africa Council the following OUs: Uganda Section, Sudan Subsection, Mauritius Subsection, Burkina Faso Subsection, and Botswana Subsection. Some discussion takes place about the pertinence of the motion. A friendly amendment of this motion requests that Region 8 approves the IEEE Africa Council new members stating, in the case of Mauritius Subsection, "or Mauritius Section as soon as it is approved". The motion was put forward Habib Kammoun, Africa Council Secretary and seconded by South Africa Section. The motion is voted and approved unanimously. Motion passes.

313 Discussion - Next Region 8 Committee Meeting

Manuel Ballesteros, Spain Section representative, invites everybody to the 113th IEEE Region 8 Committee meeting which will take place in Valencia, Spain. The dates are still to be decided. More information will be published on the meeting website.

315 Discussion - Closing Remarks by R8 Director Magdalena Salazar Palma

R8 Director reminds everybody to fill up before leaving the questionnaire submitted by Albert Lysko, Chapters Coordination Sub Committee Chair.

316 Procedural - Adjournment

Director Salazar Palma thanks everybody for their collaboration during the meeting. She asks for a motion to adjourn. The motion is put forward and seconded. The meeting is adjourned.

Section/Subsection Officers

(GEO) Current Reported Section Chairs_R8_12Jan2017

Organizational Unit Name	Position Description	Position Start Date	Position End Date	First Name	Last Name	Email Address
Algeria Section	Chair	01/01/2018		Abdelouahab	Mekhaldi	wamekhalidi@yahoo.fr
Austria Section	Chair	12/10/2017	31/12/2019	Reinhard	Pfliegel	reinhard@pfliegel.at
Bahrain Section	Chair	01/01/2019	31/12/2020	Eshaa M.	Alkhalifa	eshaa@silvertair.com
Belarus	Chair	01-01-2018	31-12-2019	Yuri	Bobkov	bobkov.yuri@gmail.com
Benelux	Chair	01-01-2019	31-12-2020	Mark	Bentum	m.j.bentum@tue.nl
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Chair	01-01-2017	31-12-2020	Meliha	Selak	meliha.selak@gmail.com
Bulgaria	Chair	01-01-2017	31-12-2020	Kiril	Alexiev	kiril.m.alexiev@ieeee.org
Croatia	Chair	01-01-2017	31-12-2020	Maja	Matijasevic	mmatijasevic@ieeee.org
Cyprus	Chair	01-01-2018	31-12-2019	Elias	Kyriakides	elias@ucy.ac.cy
Czechoslovakia	Chair	01-01-2019	31-12-2020	Frantisek	Mach	mach.frantisek@ieeee.org
Denmark	Chair	01-01-2019	31-12-2020	Yongheng	Yang	yoy@et.aau.dk
Egypt	Chair	01-01-2016	31-12-2019	Samir	Shaheen	sshahen@ieeee.org
Estonia	Chair	01-01-2017	31-12-2020	Peeter	Ellervee	p.ellervee@ieeee.org
Finland	Chair	01-01-2016	31-12-2019	Toni	Mattila	toni.mattila@hut.fi
France	Chair	01-01-2017	31-12-2019	Frederique	Vallee	frederique.vallee@sarl-fandco.fr
Germany	Chair	01-01-2017	31-12-2020	Ingo	Hahn	ingo.hahn@ieeee.org
Ghana	Chair	01-01-2017	31-12-2020	George	Eduful	georgeeduful@yahoo.com
Greece	Chair	04-02-2019	31-12-2020	Konstantina	Nikita	knikita@ece.ntua.gr
Hungary	Chair	01-01-2017	31-12-2020	Levente	Kovacs	kovacs.levente@nik.uni-ubuda.hu
Iceland	Chair	01-01-2019	31-12-2020	Jacob	Sigurdsson	jakobs@hi.is
Iran	Chair	01-01-2019	31-12-2020	Hadi	Moradi	moradih@ut.ac.ir
Iraq	Chair	01-01-2019	31-12-2020	Sabiha	F. Jawad	fathiljawad@gmail.com
Israel	Chair	15-01-2018	31-12-2019	Uri	Shaked	shaked@eng.tau.ac.il
Italy	Chair	01-01-2019	31-12-2020	Bernardo	Tellini	bernardo.tellini@ing.unipi.it
Jordan	Chair	01-01-2016	31-12-2019	Gheith	Abandah	abandah@ju.edu.jo
Kenya	Chair	01-02-2018	31-12-2019	Charles	Onyango	oniangoco@gmail.com
Kuwait	Chair	01-01-2018	31-12-2019	Mansour	Jaragh	m.jaragh@ieeee.org
Latvia	Chair	01-01-2018	31-12-2019	Nadezda	Kunicina	nadezda.kunicina@rtu.lv
Lebanon	Chair	01-01-2019	31-12-2020	Bachar	Elhassan	bachar_elhassan@ul.edu.lb
Lithuania	Chair	01-01-2019	31-12-2020	Dalius	Navakauskas	dalius.navakauskas@ieeee.org
Malta	Chair	01-01-2017	31-12-2020	Conrad	Attard	conattard@gmail.com
Morocco	Chair	01-01-2016	31-12-2019	Mohammed	El Mohajir	m.elmohajir@ieeee.org
Nigeria	Chair	01-01-2016	31-12-2019	Raphael	Onoshakpor	maejow007@yahoo.com
Norway	Chair	01-01-2016	31-12-2019	Runar	Soeraasen	runar.soeraasen@ieeee.org
Oman	Chair	01-01-2018	31-12-2019	Ahmed	Al Maashari	maashri@gmail.com
Poland	Chair	01-01-2016	31-12-2019	Mariusz	Malinowski	malin@isep.pw.edu.pl
Portugal	Chair	01-01-2018	31-12-2019	Jose	Pedro Silva	jose.pedro.silva@ieeee-pt.org
Qatar	Chair	20-05-2015	19-05-2019	Somaya	Al-maadeed	s_alali@qu.edu.qa
Republic of Macedonia	Chair	01-01-2018	31-12-2019	Pero	Latkoski	pero@feit.ukim.edu.mk
Romania	Chair	20-10-2018	31-12-2019	Cristian	Negrescu	negrescu@elcom.pub.ro
Russia	Chair	28-01-2019	31-12-2020	Sergey	Bankov	sbankov@yandex.ru
Russia (Northwest)	Chair	01-01-2017	31-12-2020	Mikhail	Shestopalov	shestopalov_08@MAIL.RU
Russia (Siberia)	Chair	01-01-2016	31-12-2019	Alexey	Rodionov	alrod@sscc.ru
Saudi Arabia (East)	Chair	01-01-2018	31-12-2019	Mohammad	Al-Muhaini	muhaini@kfupm.edu.sa
Saudi Arabia (West)	Chair	01-01-2014		Mohamed	A T Turki	mtmm@mtmm.com.sa
Serbia and Montenegro	Chair	01-01-2019	31-12-2020	Boris	Dumnic	dumnic@uns.ac.rs
Slovenia	Chair	01-01-2018	31-12-2019	Andrej	Trost	andrej.trost@fe.uni-lj.si
South Africa	Chair	01-01-2019	31-12-2020	Darrin	Cornish	Darryn.Cornish@ieeee.org
Spain	Chair	01-01-2018	31-12-2019	Jesus	Fraile-Ardanuy	jesus.fraile.ardanuy@upm.es
Sweden	Chair	14-03-2018	31-12-2019	Samarth	Deo	samarthdeo@ieeee.org
Switzerland	Chair	28-04-2017		Maria-Alexandra	Paun	maria_paun2003@yahoo.com
Tunisia	Chair	01-01-2019	31-12-2020	Adel	M. Alimi	adel.alimi@ieeee.org
Turkey	Chair	01-01-2016	31-12-2019	Murat	Uysal	murat.uysal@ozyegin.edu.tr
Uganda	Chair	07-02-2019	31-12-2020	Vincent	Olema	vincent.olema.o@ieeee.org
UK and Ireland	Chair	01-01-2018	31-12-2019	Michael	Hinchey	mike.hinchey@lero.ie
Ukraine	Chair	01-01-2018	31-12-2019	Evgen	Pichkalyov	pichkalyov@gmail.com
United Arab Emirates	Chair	01-01-2019	31-12-2020	Fatma	Taher	fatma_taher@ieeee.org
Zambia	Chair	01-01-2017	31-12-2018	Simon	Muwowo	smuwowo@zesco.co.zm

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Director

Magdalena Salazar Palma

Goals

- 1) As R8 Director, and Chair of the R8 Committee, the Director's goals are aligned with the goals of the VCs, SCs, and Africa Council. Concrete goals include:
 - Devise a financial plan which will support increased activities of the SCs.
 - Membership, including Students:
 - Consolidated the growth trend,
 - Increase the retention,
 - Continue R8 focus on Students and YP,
 - Support WIE SC,
 - Focus on Humanitarian Activities.
 - Technical Activities:
 - Continue to focus on becoming closer to industry with the scope of better serving practitioner members, and increasing the number of members from industry,
 - Revitalize R8 chapters,
 - Reinforce relations with IEEE Societies and Technical Councils.
 - Consolidate R8 flagship conferences and increase the portfolio of financially and technically cosponsored conferences.
 - Increase R8 visibility.
 - Increase R8 member and OU recognitions through IEEE level, MGAB and R8 awards.
- 2) As member of IEEE MGAB and IEEE BoD, to attend the various meetings of these Boards and support their strategies and operations. The Director is member of MGAB Strategic Planning Sub Committee and IEEE Ad Hoc Committee on Diversity, Inclusion and Professional Ethics. Concrete goals include:
 - Devising and supporting MGAB Strategic Plan, in particular for the future structure of Regions
 - Supporting IEEE BoD strategy on a new membership model,
 - Supporting IEEE BoD activities on diversity, inclusion and ethics.

Status

- 1) R8 Statistics and Achievements
 - R8 membership: We have just started the new Membership year. Thus, the more recent membership statistics (August 2019) show numbers below those corresponding to January 2019 shown during the 112th R8 Committee meeting. However the following positive outputs can be highlighted:
 - 11 R8 Sections met both their recruitment and retention goals for the year and have earned the Gold recognition status (Algeria, Ukraine, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Macedonia, Romania, Kuwait, Bahrain, Estonia, Greece, Morocco Sections)
 - 13 R8 Sections achieved their recruitment goal (Western Saudi Arabia, Slovenia, Latvia, Ghana, Switzerland, Denmark, Tunisia, Malta, Sweden, Hungary, Germany, Benelux, UK & I Sections)
 - 4 R8 Sections achieved their retention goal (Belarus, Lithuania, Austria, Lebanon Sections)
 - R8 OUs statistics:
 - 59 Sections.
 - 10 Subsections; there are plans for the elevation of one subsection to Section, and for the formation of new Subsections in Eastern Europe and Africa.
 - Since the last R8 Committee meeting, 46 new Chapters have been formed, and 30 have been dissolved.
 - Since the last meeting, 13 new Student Branches have been formed.
 - Since the last meeting, 26 new Student Branch Chapters have been formed.
 - Since the last meeting, 1 new YP AG has been formed, giving a total of 53 YP AGs!
 - Since the last meeting, 3 new WIE AG have been formed.
 - Since the last meeting, 6 new Student Branch WIE AG have been formed.
 - Since the last meeting, 1 new LM AG has been formed.
 - R8 achievements:
 - Since the last Committee meeting:
 - 3 R8 flagship Conferences have taken place: Eurocon 2019, in Novi Sad, Serbia, 1-4 July 2019; IEEE Histelcon 2019, in Glasgow, UK, 18-19 September 2019; and Africon, Accra, Ghana, 25-27 September 2019.
 - 12 Conferences cosponsored by the Region took place.
 - 1 WIE ILS was held in Porto (Portugal), 25-27 July 2019.
 - 2 Cross Sectional SYP Congresses have taken place: CEUSYP 2019, Novi Sad, Serbia, 2-4 July 2019; WESYP 2019, Glasgow, Scotland, UK, 20-21 September 2019;
 - Since the last Committee meeting two History Milestones have been unveiled in R8 Sections:
 - Salva Electric Telegraph, Spain, 17 May 2019;
 - Standardisation of the Ohm, UK & I, 17 September 2019;

- Other milestones will be unveiled before the end of the year.
 - Since the last Committee meeting:
 - 6 Region 8 individuals have been announced as recipients of 2020 IEEE Technical Field Awards (out of 31);
 - Two R8 Sections have been selected as recipients of MGA Outstanding Section Awards:
 - * Medium Section: IEEE South Africa Section.
 - * Small Section: IEEE Kenya Section
- 2) Director's calendar from 18 March 2019:
- Startup Ole, Salamanca, Spain, 26-27 March 2019
 - Scouting Valencia Hotels for 113th R8 Committee meeting, 28-29 March 2019
 - IEEE Vision, Innovation, and Challenges Summit, San Diego, CA, USA, 17 May 2019.
 - R8 OpCom meeting, Brussels, Belgium, 31 May-2 June 2019
 - IEEE Meeting Series, including MGAB, IEEE Assembly and IEEE BoD meetings, Atlanta, GA, USA, 19-24 June 2019
 - Eurocon, Novi Sad, Serbia, 1-4 July 2019
 - CEuSYP, Novi Sad, Serbia, 2-4 July 2019
 - WIE ILS Porto, Portugal, 25-27 July 2019
 - IEEE Convene, Washington Dc, USA, 31 July-2 August 2019
 - R8 N&A Sub Committee meeting, Budapest, Hungary, 30-31 August 2019
 - IEEE Histelcon, Glasgow, Scotland, UK, 18-19 September 2019
 - WESYP 2019, Glasgow, Scotland, UK, 20-21 September 2019
 - 113th R8 Committee meeting, Valencia, Spain, 11-13 October 2019
 - Attended also a number of WebEx meetings of IEEE BoD, MGA Strategic Planning Committee, IEEE Ad Hoc Committee on Diversity, Inclusion and Professional Ethics, R8 OpCom and other Committees.
- 3) Status of actions taken to achieve the goals:
- Finances: An Ad Hoc Finance Committee has been established.
 - R8 membership, Students, YP and WIE: The corresponding SCs have done an outstanding job in improving their activities.
 - LM AG Chairs are going to have a meeting in conjunction with the 113th R8 Committee meeting, which is expected to revitalize these AGs and create links with other OUs and members.
 - Technical Activities in R8 are being improved through the work of the corresponding SCs.
 - Africa Council is going to celebrate its fourth meeting during the 113th R8 Committee meeting.
 - Alignment of the Strategic Planning SC with IEEE goals on new membership model, possible restructure of Regions and diversity, inclusion and professional ethics.
 - Sections reports show a high level of activities and engagement. Sections vitality is good in the overall.

Please include financial position (Treasurer)

Outlook

Local activities at the Section and Subsection level are the basis of IEEE: Chapters, Student Branches, Student Branch Chapters, Affinity Groups (LM, YP, WIE), and Student Branch WIE Affinity Groups. The operation of all R8 Sub Committees is vital to increase the benefits offered to R8 members and make IEEE their professional home. R8 OpCom continues to oversee and try to help the operations of Sub Committees, Sections, Subsections, and Africa Council.

Please include any modifications you would like in your budget, with the corresponding justification

Points of Concern

The finance situation of the Region is a point of concern. The Finance Committee needs to look into ways of reducing expenses and increasing the income, in order to reach a healthy cash flow.

Other Issues to report

None.

Past Director

Margaretha Eriksson

Goals

As per R8 Operations manual for Past Director.

Status

I am chairing the R8 Nominations & Appointments committee as well as the R8 Awards committee.

I am also member of the R8 Finance committee and proud of the fact that we now have come through with the transition to a cloud based book keeping system and our international payments are in the hands of the elected Treasurer.

In general I am supporting the R8 OpCom and member of the IEEE AdHoc Committee.

Financial Position

Outlook

The development and forming of the Africa Council is very positive, and the interest in forming of new Sections and Sub-sections is great to see.

The N&A committee has found good candidates for R8 Director-Elect, and the elected Vice-Chairs have declared their willingness to serve for another year.

Modifications to your budget, with the corresponding justification

None at the moment.

Points of Concern

Our region is growing in number of Sections which is great, however growth comes with a need for investment in training new volunteers to lead and develop the Sections and Sub-sections.

Other Issues to report

None at the moment.

Director-Elect

Antonio Luque

Goals

Assisting the Director, participating in OpCom business, chairing the Strategic Planning Committee, coordinating Region and Section vitality.

Status

Since the last meeting, much of the effort has been put in the Region realignment process that is being conducted at MGA. The reader is requested to look at the Strategic Planning Subcommittee report for more information on that process. The Director-Elect participated in the R8 OpCom meeting in Brussels on June 1st and 2nd.

Financial Position

Outlook

Regarding Section Vitality and petitions, a number of requests for creation of new OUs has been received in the last months and more are expected, since members in countries without Section or Subsection often like to have some IEEE structure. However, these requests are not always justified and it would be advisable to create viable and sustainable IEEE activities and to have stable membership before petitioning for an OU to be formed.

Modifications to your budget, with the corresponding justification

None at the moment.

Points of Concern

Membership growth (or lack thereof) continues to be a concern for healthy development of new OUs. Trends on membership should be taken into account in the realignment process.

Other Issues to report

None at the moment

V/C Member Activities

Adeel Sultan

Goals

The VC Member Activities coordinates the following activities:

- Membership Development
- History Activities
- Humanitarian Activities
- Affinity Group Activities (Young Professionals, Life Members, Women in Engineering)
- Publications & Communications (Region 8 News, Electronic Communications, Region8 Today, Social Media and Web-pages)

The primary goal of VCMA is to establish efficient coordination among various SC's, while the main objectives of the MA sub-committees is to engage members, by providing them the initiatives and programs of non-technical nature. One of the long-term goals of MA is to increase the level of volunteering among all members, so that new activities and programs can be initiated and maintained

Status

Coordination is key and is achieved through various multi-faceted means, one of which is periodic conference calls with all SC chairs and extended teams. This helps fostering the common MA goal of engaging members with non-technical activities. This year, MA employed a new 3C methodology to facilitate close collaboration amongst all parties, which has had very positive impact and encouraging results. Below, some highlights from the different subcommittees under MA but Please refer to the specific reports for full status descriptions.

- Young Professionals: Participation in several events throughout the year and initiation of work towards SYP congress2020
- History activities: Several Milestone proposals underway. HISTELCON 2019 and milestone plaque unveiling successfully completed in Glasgow.
- Membership Development: Decrease in overall YoY membership growth and mechanisms underway alleviate the situation. Successfully held a MD Workshop in Lithuania.
- Life members: Continued campaign to increase the number of LMAGs. Dedicated LMAG Face2Face meeting planned during R8 Meeting in Valencia.
- Women in Engineering: Efforts continue to Increase the number of WIE AGs in the Region. Close collaboration with various SC's leading to fruitful outcomes.
- Publications & Communications: Consolidation of various components of communications through this new committee is working well towards synchronizing the messages and information.
- Humanitarian activities: Recruited new strategically located volunteers to improve outreach and manage activities.

Financial Position

Outlook

Efforts will continue towards optimizing the cooperation/communication within the Region such that all initiatives converge to ensure overall member satisfaction. Focus will be placed on activities that lead to new recruitment and growth.

Modifications to your budget, with the corresponding justification

Points of Concern

More concerted efforts needs to happen across the board to lessen the impact of membership decline. There is also a need to improve the perception of members in their first years of membership so that they value their membership from the beginning and stays on for the subsequent years.

Other Issues to report

V/C Student Activities

Maciej Borwka

Goals

- Rise awareness about wide variety of Student Activities, products, events and contests - electronic communication.
- Establish close connection with Section: Chairs, Student Representatives and Student Activities Chairs
- Increase numbers and quality of Student Events. Promote membership growth. Provide up-to-date info about current requirements for Student Branch reporting (Rules changed starting from 2019)
- Maintaining quality of Cross-Sectional SYPs and R8 SYP - attracting new volunteers.
- Focus on Africa and Central Asia
- Close collaboration with YP/WIE/LM/IEEE HKN
- Creating new opportunities - New Student Projects and Initiatives - Industry Focused, Student Branch Chapters focused.
- Address current regional and local issues to MGA SAC for future improvements.

Status

IEEE Region 8 Student Activities Committee (R8SAC) composition 2019:

- Chair: Maciej Borwka (Poland)
- Past Chair: Efthymia Arvaniti (Austria)
- Regional Student Representative: George Papadimitriou (Greece)
- Awards & Contest Coordinator: Lee Crudgington (UK and Ireland)
- Electronic Communications: Mohammad Hossein Babaee (Portugal)
- Projects & Initiatives Coordinator: Rawane El Jamal (Lebanon)
- Student Branch Coordinator: ngela Martnez (Spain)
- Student Paper Contest Coordinator: Paul Micallef (Malta)
- Technical Activities Liaison, Student Branch Chapters Coordinator: Sarra Ben Rabii (Tunisia)
- Young Professionals Liaison, Industry Focused: Ahmed Al Omoush (Jordan)

Corresponding Members:

- Student Branch Chapter Representative to MGA SAC: Simay Akar (Turkey)
- IEEEExtreme Project Lead MGA SAC: Ahmed Al Omoush: George Michael (Cyprus)

Status of Region 8 Student & Young Professional Congresses:

Finished:

- 2019 — Gulf Cooperation Council Kuwait, Kuwait, 19?20 April 2019
- 2019 — Central European Novi Sad, Serbia, 2?4 July 2019
- 2019 — West European Glasgow, UK, 19?21 September 2019

Upcoming:

- 2019 — Nordic Stockholm, Sweden / Helsinki, Finland, 25?27 October 2019
- 2019 — Hellenic, Xanthi, Greece, 8?10 November 2019

Granted:

- (R8SYP2020) IEEE Region 8 Student & Young Professional Congress 2020, Sweden, Gothenburg, TBA July/August 2019
- IEEE Middle East SYP, Jordan, TBA

Call for Proposals (event till end of 2019):

- South Africa SYP (English), TBA
- East Africa SYP (English and Swahili), TBA
- West Africa SYP (French), TBA

Region 8 Student Organization Units Summary (on October 9th):

- Student Branches 651
- Student Branch Affinity Groups 120
- Student Branch Chapters 379
- IEEE-HKN 8

New Student OU Formed: (till end of August 2019):

Student Branches:

- Egypt Section Future University in Egypt (FUE)
- Jordan Section Al-Hussein Technical University
- Kuwait Section Australian College of Kuwait
- Oman Section Nizwa College of Technology
- Poland Section University of Warsaw
- Portugal Section Instituto Politecnico do Cavado e Ave
- Saudi Arabia Section Al-Yamamah University
- Saudi Arabia Section University of Jeddah
- Saudi Arabia Section Prince Sattam bin Abdulaziz University
- Tunisia Section H I Informatics & Mathematics of Monastir (ISIMM)
- Turkey Section Namik Kemal Universitesi
- Uganda Section Mbarara University of Science and Technology

- Ukraine Section O.S. Popov Odessa National Academy of Telecom
- Western Saudi Arabia Section International Technical College at Jeddah-Laureate

WIE Student Branch Affinity Groups:

- Greece Section Alexandrio TEI of Thessaloniki,WIE
- Jordan Section Al-Huson University College,WIE
- Kenya Section Jomo Kenyatta Univ Of Agriculture & Tech,WIE
- Lebanon Section Lebanese American Univ,WIE
- Nigeria Section Enugu State University of Science & Technology,WIE
- Turkey Section Beykent University,WIE

Student Branch Chapters:

- Egypt Section Power & Energy Society Tanta University,PE31
- Egypt Section Power & Energy Society El Shorouk Academy,PE31
- Estonia Section Industrial Electronics Society Tallinn University of Technology,IE13
- France Section Industry Applications Society Inst Supérieur de l'aéronautique et de l'Espace,IA34
- Greece Section Sensors Council/Power & Energy Society National Technical Univ of Athens(NTUA),SEN39/PE31
- Italy Section Robotics and Automation Society/Industrial Electronics Society Politecnico Di Milano,RA24/IE13
- Jordan Section Robotics and Automation Society Princess Sumaya University for Technology,RA24
- Jordan Section Communications Society Princess Sumaya University for Technology,COM19
- Kenya Section Power & Energy Society Jomo Kenyatta Univ Of Agriculture & Tech,PE31
- Lebanon Section Engineering in Medicine and Biology Society Holy Spirit University of Kaslik, (USEK),EMB18
- Lebanon Section Engineering in Medicine and Biology Society American University-Beirut,EMB18
- Morocco Section Industry Applications Society Ibn Tofail University,IA34
- Poland Section Photonics Society University of Warsaw,PHO36
- Reg 8-Countries Outside Sections Circuits and Systems Society Nazarbayev University,CAS04
- Romania Section Electronics Packaging Society Politehnica Univ Of Bucharest,EP21
- Serbia And Montenegro Section Power & Energy Society Belgrade Univ Of,PE31
- Spain Section Industry Applications Society Universidad Politecnica de Madrid,IA34
- Tunisia Section Power & Energy Society Polytech Sfax,PE31
- Tunisia Section Engineering in Medicine and Biology Society Nat'l Inst of Applied Sci Tech (INSAT),EMB18
- Turkey Section Industry Applications Society Bilkent University,IA34
- Turkey Section Industry Applications Society Istanbul Kultur Universitesi,IA34
- Turkey Section Power & Energy Society/Robotics and Automation Society/Computer Society/Industry Applications Society/Aerospace and Electronic Systems Society Cankaya Univ,PE31/RA24/C16/IA34/AES10
- Turkey Section Industry Applications Society Dokuz Eylul Univ,IA34
- Turkey Section Computer Society Ankara University,C16
- Turkey Section Signal Processing Society Izmir Ekonomi Universitesi,SP01
- Turkey Section Robotics and Automation Society Eastern Mediterranean Univ,RA24
- Turkey Section Signal Processing Society Dokuz Eylul Univ,SP01
- Turkey Section Engineering in Medicine and Biology Society Balikesir Universitesi,EMB18

Student Awards: Currently waiting for MGA SAC Award Committee to finalize and confirm list of winners. Complete list of Student related Awards for 2019 and 2018 will be distributed by e-notice after receiving complete list.

Attached files:

- 2019 R8 Student Branch reporting summary.pdf
- Summary 2018 Student Branch Rebates.pdf
- Summary 2019 Student Branch Rebates.pdf
- IEEE Region 8 Student Paper Contest 2019 Final Results.pdf
- Call for Student Awards 2020.pdf

For more information please contact: maciejborowka@ieee.org / r8sac@ieee.org or by <https://www.facebook.com/pg/ieee.r8sac> or visit our website: <https://ieeer8.org/category/student-activities>

Please include financial position (Treasurer)

Outlook

New Initiatives:

- Lead the Change Project
- R8 Section Student Representatives Training Program (pilot at Nordic SYP and Hellenic SYP)
- Local SAC visits (finished - Porto, Istanbul)
- Industry cooperation: Arduino, Prezi
- Regional SYP Exchange program
- SYP2020 Host Section Student Branches support program

Please include any modifications you would like in your budget, with the corresponding justification

Points of Concern

- Large number of Student Branches at risk of dissolution due to fact of not sending annual report, officers reporting and keeping minimum number of 10 students. R8 Sections lose in total
- 40000USD/year for Student Activities by no sending reports.
- Secure enough funding for/keep reasonable price of R8SYP2020 Sweden registration fee.
- SAC 2020 Budget, increase required to keep amount and quality of events and introduce new ones.

Other Issues to Report

V/C Technical Activities

Sohaib Sheikh

Goals

- 1) Revitalise the Chapter Coordination sub-committee;
- 2) Expand Action for Industry programs and align them with the IEEE Industry Engagement Committee;
- 3) Achieve a healthy conferences outlook, explore new flagship conferences and industry focused events;
- 4) Improve educational activities programs with specific emphasis on University and Continuing Education;
- 5) Coordinate the potential merger of Educational Activities and Professional Activities;
- 6) Expand our standards-related offerings;
- 7) Engage with Africa Council to expand TA activities in Africa;
- 8) Increase TA activities focused on Students and Young Professionals;
- 9) Increase coordination between sub-committees;

Status

I have been holding quarterly meetings with SC Chairs to increase collaboration between them, resolve their challenges and ensure that all SCs are working effectively towards their goals and KPIs.

- EASC and PASC were merged in the R8 spring meeting to form PEASC. Since then, we have been working together to revamp their programs. These programs, including the TISP week, Speakers program, Entrepreneurship week and Alpha engineers, are live now;
- Afi held a meeting a meeting of African Industry Ambassadors in Kenya in August, 2019. The meeting was held to coordinate and increase industry activities in Africa. This is in addition to the very successful internship program which offered many internships this year;
- Our strategy for conferences this year was to improve our outlook by promoting diverse conference programs, explore new flagship conferences and increase industry focused event. CoCSC have made progress on all fronts with financial co-sponsorship of multiple conferences, increased industry conferences/summits (TEMS conference, GCIoT, etc) and working with Opcom and HuASC, hosting rights of IHTC 2021. This is in addition to approving and coordinating TCS conferences and R8 flagship conferences;
- Standards team have initiated a new speaker program which I would like to encourage our Sections to avail. This is in addition to their participation in major conferences across the Region;
- Chapter Coordination has made progress in it's revitalisation. A number of activities have been held so far including a chapter chair training event in collaboration with Membership Activities SC.

Financial Position

All committees within Budget. 11% of total TA budget used as of August 2019. Majority of the events planned in the second half of the year which will increase budget utilisation to an expected 88%. No overspend planned or expected.

Outlook

- Continued oversight of SC work with regular meetings to understand progress against established KPIs and challenges;
- Increased collaboration with Sections and Global Committees to make the work of our committees more effective;
- Increased collaboration with the Societies to help the revitalization of Chapter Coordination;
- Further structuring of standards activities;
- Continued focus on Industry-focused programs and initiatives across all SCs.

Modifications to your budget, with the corresponding justification

Points of Concern

Revitalization of the Chapter Coordination SC has faced challenges and we are continuously looking at ways through which we can make the work of the committee more beneficial for chapters in the Region;

Continued focus on industry-related activities from the Region, Sections and Chapters is required to increase our offerings for industry members.

Other Issues to report

Treasurer

Adam Jastrzebski

Goals

- Financial management of the Region 8 activities in accordance with IEEE and good practice requirements.
- Leading R8 Finance Subcommittee (FC).
- Preparation of an annual budget for R8 in co-operation with OpCom and FC.
- Monitoring R8 budgets and providing OpCom with monthly actual vs budget reports.
- Maintaining R8 financial records and making these records available for inspection by FC and auditors.
- Reimbursement of authorised travel and other expenses. Checking that the claims comply with IEEE and R8 policies.
- Operating R8 bank payment system through which reimbursements, contract payments, awards, grants, and advances are being paid.
- In the planning of Region 8 major events (e.g. Committee Meetings) ensuring that contracts with hotels, restaurants, etc are compliant with IEEE requirements, and that reasonable economies are made.
- Annual financial reporting in compliance with IEEE regulations.

Status

Region 8 financial operations rely on five main components:

- IEEE CB bank accounts in USA
- NatWest bank accounts in UK
- Bank payment system to execute transfers of money
- Sage financial system to record transaction records
- Documentation related to transactions

The Treasurer must have access and be in control of all the above in order to properly discharge his duties. Unfortunately, the transition from the Past Treasurer has been a very long and a very difficult process. Only after seven months, at the end of July 2019, the Treasurer has gained full access to the NatWest bank accounts, bank records, and the bank payment system. Fortunately, we have been able to minimise some of the negative consequences of this delay and all the due reimbursement and contract payments had been made in good time. The Past Treasurer was cooperative in that respect. One of the negative consequences was much higher usage of our IEEE CB account with higher transaction costs than offered by the local NatWest bank. The other negative consequence is that we have a backlog of a few hundred transactions to be recorded in the Sage financial system. Until this is completed, the transaction records are being kept in the spreadsheet file.

A new coding system for the Region 8 activities budgets has been developed, which enables production of clear budget reports to help with the financial management of the Region. Budget reports have been provided for each of the monthly OpCom meetings. Once the financial records are in Sage, these reports can be generated with even more detail and with little effort (it is quite tedious and time consuming to do it from the spreadsheet).

One of the consequences of introducing budget codes into our records has been the necessity for the completely new setup of our Sage accounts system. This work has been completed now. The same budget coding system has been implemented in the Concur cloud-based expense reimbursement application, which is now been introduced across IEEE and which some of us can use already. This will simplify the claim process and it is the reason why we have not pushed forward with the work on a GnuCash project, proposed at the last 112th R8 meeting in Malta. There will be a presentation about Concur at this meeting. Previously, financial documentation was stored in a traditional paper form. At present all the documents are stored electronically and properly indexed. A unique reference number is used for each transaction. That reference is used in all transaction's document names, bank records, Sage records and in email correspondence.

Please include financial position (Treasurer)

Our total budget expenses to-date fell well within the planned limits. Region 8 budget approved at 112th R8 Meeting has essentially remained unchanged apart from the revision in April 2019 which increased the budget for the new combined Professional and Educational Activities Sub-Committee by \$6k. To compensate for that, the budget for this 113th meeting has been decreased by the same amount. One of the consequences is a far more rigorous approach applied to the room booking dates for this meeting, which have been reduced to two nights, unless justified by objective circumstances.

Region 8 had its annual audit for 2018 completed with the satisfactory result.

An up-to-date detailed budget report for Region 8 will be presented at the meeting.

Outlook

The work on setting up of an efficient Sage accounting system with budgeting capabilities (previously unavailable) is close to completion. The modified Sage system is anticipated to be fully operational in November. Professional bookkeeper has been hired to help in recording the backlog of the financial data and then to maintain it, at the fraction of the cost in 2018. This will enable reduction of the Audit and Accounting expenses by 57% in 2020.

2020 R8 Budget proposals have been received and will be discussed in detail at this meeting. Quite a large increase in the budget is planned, mainly due to Section Congress, but also to invest in the financial co-sponsorship of the Region flagship conferences. It is also planned to create a central Reserve Fund for special projects. It is expected that these investments will pay-off in the future and will more than balance currently decreasing income from Regional Assessment. It is planned to use some of our LTF savings to finance this one-off budget deficit.

It is expected that Concur claim reimbursement system will become widely adopted. Regional Treasurer is expected to become a local point of support in using Concur. On one hand it will add another load but at the same time, it will reduce the number of transactions the Treasurer has to key-in manually. An important issue will be the detail of the records received by the Treasurer

from Concur, so the expenses can be correctly recorded in the accounts and assigned the right budget codes. The Treasurer has collaborated with the IEEE Concur team in setting-up the system to achieve that for Region 8, but there have been no life test to-date to confirm that it works.

Please include any modifications you would like in your budget, with the corresponding justification

Points of Concern

The main point of concern is that for several years Region 8 was spending more than its income was. The 2018 R8 financial report has substantially underestimated budget deficit by not including payments which have arisen and should have been paid last year (accruals). These expenses amounted to almost \$29k net (for example, \$8.7k to South Africa for MD Workshop in March 2018, or £8.3k to Assistant Treasurer for part of his services in 2018). Technically, these expenses should have been recorded as accrued in the last year records, which would make the reported last year budget deficit without the Long-Term Investment component of almost \$39k. With LTF included, the budget deficit for 2018 would be \$83.5k. Unfortunately, we had to pay these expenses this year, effectively from this year budget. Another point of concern is that the actual Region 8 Assessment (Membership Dues Element) figure for 2019 is only \$511,795, i.e. much less than the assumed \$540,000. In fact, R8 Assessment in 2018 was also only \$525k, rather than previously assumed \$540k.

Secretary

Ana Madureira

Goals

- Use of collaborative and efficient tools that contribute to a greater involvement and an effective communication;
- Propose new initiatives for agile coordination of activities to build a closer cooperation between R8 Committees, OU's and with national/international organizations intending the IEEE mission accomplishment;
- Stimulate the cultural diversity of Region and to create a fruitful platform for the ideas, good practices and experiences exchanging, that should lead to innovation, rejuvenation and specially the visibility improvement of R8 activities;
- Contribute to the R8 meetings dynamics with timely, quality information and collaborative agendas contributing to its effective and productive results:
 - Agile Communication;
 - Consensus;
 - Vitality;

Status

Valencia meeting organization and all the the related procedures are undergoing. Secretariat team is actively involved to ensure all the conditions to a very rich and productive meeting.

Reporting tools were all reformulated in order to accomplish R8 committee information needs.

The IEEE 114th Region 8 committee meeting and the participation on Section Congress is already in preparation.

Please include financial position (Treasurer)

Outlook

In the next months, most of the efforts will be focused in identifyng the weak points and the improvement aspects on the R8 committe meetings organization, and planning activities and in optimizing coordination and communication to increase the satisfaction of all the members of Region 8 Committee (Section representatives, Operating Committee, Appointed Members) and its OU's on their activities.

Please include any modifications you would like in your budget, with the corresponding justification

Points of Concern

Timely information.

Other Issues to report

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Action For Industry (AfI)

Marios Antoniou

Goals

- Expand AfI to new companies and to more Sections.
- Secure internship positions.
- Mentoring.
- Organize and participate in industry and entrepreneurship events.

Progress against goals since the last report

New MoUs signed in Africa, MENA and Europe with industry corporations and other national organizations.

Number of Industry Relation Officers or Industry Representatives appointed in Sections

34 Section Industry Ambassadors. Four more Section Industry Ambassadors appointed in 2019.

Industry events organized/conducted since the last report

Industry visits and Section Industry Ambassador workshop in Nairobi Kenya. RTSI conference in Firenze Italy, industry and entrepreneurship events.

Number of internships offered (location, quantity and partner companies) since the last report

64 internships secured.

- Cyprus Section -39;
- Italy Section - 3;
- Nigeria Section - 4;
- Kenya Section - 15;
- Czechoslovakia - 3;

Proposals for improvements

- Appoint more than one Section Industry Ambassador in all Sections in Region 8.
- Each Section to allocate budget for the organization and participation in industry and entrepreneurship events.

Points of Concern

In most Sections there is only one SIA appointed. As a result there is a risk if the SIA does not continue.

Other Issues to report

Awards & Recognition Subcommittee (A&RSC)

Margaretha Eriksson

Goals

Select R8 award winners

Points of Concern

None.

Calendar for awards

The calendar for awards is by R8 bylaws.

Awardees

The awardees will be announced during the R8 meeting in Valencia

Number of nominations received

For R8 Chapter of the year award 4 nominations, and for R8 outstanding volunteer 5 nominations. All other nominations were judged by their peer group (SYP, WIE, etc.)

Proposals for improvements

More promotion of the awards

Other Issues to report

Many thanks to Youmna and Jaafar who made the ground work of collecting and sorting nominations! Many thanks to all the committee members for a great job!

Chapter Coordination Subcommittee (ChCSC)

Albert Lysko

Goals

- Getting identity and creating better relationships with Societies / Councils for two-way transfer of information (in progress);
- Getting identity with, understanding current state of, and helping R8 Sections, Chapters and Student Chapters (achieved);
- Collecting, sharing and promoting best practices and information relevant to starting, revitalising and running successful Chapters (in progress).

Points of Concern

Sometimes difficult to find the right people in Societies (different titles, lots of web pages).

Status on new chapters created since last meeting

46

Chapters dissolved since last meeting

30

Proposals for improvements

Perhaps, act via the top leadership of Societies.

Other Issues to report

Two reports have been submitted to various R8 and Societies leadership.

One more report (Potential Chapters) prepared and is being prepared for distribution to Sections and Chapters.

Several texts for email eNotices and for Best Practices guideline have been prepared.

Conference Coordination Subcommittee (CoCSC)

Ljupco Karadinov

Goals

- 1) Regular and timely handling of the financial and technical co-sponsorship (TCS/FCS) and e-Notice requests.
- 2) Recruiting good candidates for R8 flagship conferences, supporting and steering the awarded conferences.
- 3) Reporting to MGA and MCE, good relation with other regional conference coordinators.
- 4) Explore options for new R8 flagship conferences on trending topics or new geographic areas.
- 5) Explore industry-focused events in collaboration with other R8 sub-committees.

Points of Concern

- 1) Low number of financial co-sponsorship (FCS) of conferences by R8 Sections and Chapters needs development of strategy for increased awareness of the benefits from Sections/Chapters FCS.
- 2) Monitor the quality of the IEEE R8 FCS and TCS sponsored events (plagiarism, pay-to-publish, paper stuffing) to avoid conference quantity to reduce IEEE reputation and ability papers to be indexed.
- 3) Assure the proper conduct of IEEE R8 FCS/TCS conferences and managing conflicts of interest in line with IEEE policies. Several cases were already noticed and co-sponsorship was not approved.
- 4) Need to improve the R8 flagship conferences outlook, especially the MELECON conference has lowest number of attendees.

Conferences approved since last meeting (list TCS and FCS separately)

Using the IEEE Conference Analytics for Volunteers (<https://tblanalytics.ieee.org>) the Region 8 has approved 24 TCS and 5 FCS conferences in 2019-2020.

Technically Co-Sponsored Conferences (TSC):

- 2019 IEEE International Conference on Design & Test of Integrated Micro & Nano-Systems (DTS), Gammarth-Tunis, Tunisia, 28-Apr-2019 to 1-May-2019
- 2019 IEEE International Conference on Microwaves, Antennas, Communications and Electronic Systems (COMCAS), Tel-Aviv, Israel, 04-Nov-2019 to 6-Nov-2019
- 2019 1st Global Power, Energy and Communication Conference (GPECOM), Nevsehir, Turkey, 12-Jun-2019 to 15-Jun-2019
- 2019 IEEE Jordan International Joint Conference on Electrical Engineering and Information Technology (JEEIT), Amman, Jordan, 09-Apr-2019 to 11-Apr-2019
- 2019 Federated Conference on Computer Science and Information Systems (FedCSIS), Leipzig, Germany, 01-Sep-2019 to 4-Sep-2019
- 2019 42nd International Convention on Information and Communication Technology, Electronics and Microelectronics (MIPRO), Opatija, Croatia, 20-May-2019 to 24-May-2019
- 2019 International Workshop on Fiber Optics in Access Networks (FOAN), Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, 02-Sep-2019 to 4-Sep-2019
- 2019 2nd International Conference on Computer Applications & Information Security (ICCAIS), Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, 01-May-2019 to 3-May-2019
- 2019 International Conference on Cyber Security for Emerging Technologies (CSET), Doha, Qatar, 27-Oct-2019 to 29-Oct-2019
- 2019 42nd International Conference on Telecommunications and Signal Processing (TSP), Budapest, Hungary, 01-Jul-2019 to 3-Jul-2019
- 2019 IST-Africa Week Conference (IST-Africa), Nairobi, Kenya, 08-May-2019 to 10-May-2019
- 2019 14th International Conference on Advanced Technologies, Systems and Services in Telecommunications (TELSIKS) Nis Serbia 23-Oct-2019 25-Oct-2019
- 2019 22nd International Conference on Distributed Computer and Communication Networks: Control, Computation, Communications (DCCN), Moscow, Russia, 23-Sep-2019 to 27-Sep-2019
- 2020 6th Conference on Data Science and Machine Learning Applications (CDMA), Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, 04-Mar-2020 to 5-Mar-2020
- 2019 International Symposium ELMAR, Zadar, Croatia, 23-Sep-2019 to 25-Sep-2019
- 2019 IEEE 5th International forum on Research and Technology for Society and Industry (RTSI), Florence, Italy, 09-Sep-2019 to 12-Sep-2019
- 2019 IEEE 13th International Conference on Application of Information and Communication Technologies (AICT) Baku Azerbaijan 23-Oct-2019 25-Oct-2019
- 2019 IEEE Global Conference on Internet of Things (GCIoT), Dubai, United Arab Emirates, 04-Dec-2019 to 7-Dec-2019
- 2020 International Workshop on Antenna Technology (iWAT), Bucharest, Romania, 25-Feb-2020 to 28-Feb-2020
- 2019 27th Telecommunications Forum (TELFOR), Belgrade, Serbia, 26-Nov-2019 to 27-Nov-2019
- 2020 IEEE International Workshop on Metrology for Industry 4.0 & IoT (MetroInd4.0&IoT), Roma, Italy, 03-Jun-2020 to 5-Jun-2020
- 2020 3rd International Colloquium on Intelligent Grid Metrology (SMAGRIMET), Cavtat, Dubrovnik, Croatia, 20-Oct-2020 to 23-Oct-2020
- 2020 3rd International Conference on Computer Applications & Information Security (ICCAIS), Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, 19-Mar-2020 to 21-Mar-2020

- 2020 43rd International Convention on Information, Communication and Electronic Technology (MIPRO), Opatija, Croatia, 25-May-2020 to 29-May-2020

Financially Co- Sponsored Conferences (FCS):

- IEEE EUROCON 2019 -18th International Conference on Smart Technologies, Novi Sad, Serbia, 01-Jul-2019 to 4-Jul-2019, 15% FCS
- 2019 IEEE AFRICON, Accra, Ghana, 25-Sep-2019 to 27-Sep-2019, 15% FCS
- 2020 IEEE 20th Mediterranean Electrotechnical Conference (MELECON), Palermo, Italy, 16-Jun-2020 to 18-Jun-2020, 15% FCS
- 2020 6th IEEE International Energy Conference (ENERGYCon), Gammarth, Tunis, Tunisia, 13-Apr-2020 to 16-Apr-2020, 15% FCS
- 2020 International Conference on Technology and Entrepreneurship (ICTE), Bologna, Italy, 19-Apr-2020 to 22-Apr-2020, 5% FCS

Progress against goals since the last report

IEEE R8 FLAGSHIP CONFERENCES 2019

IEEE EUROCON 2019 (<http://eurocon2019.org/>) has been held in Novi Sad, Serbia, 1-4 July 2019. The conference had 183 submitted papers and the reviewers selected 136 papers (74.32 %). Together with the 8 keynote plenary speaker lectures and 5 finalist papers from the 2019 R8 Student Paper Contest, a total of 149 papers were presented in 4 tracks and 7+1 special sessions. IEEE President José M.F. Moura and R8 Director Magdalena Salazar Palma declared the conference open. The participants came from 30 different countries (almost all continents) with 506 authors in total. The conference included industry exhibition and industry panel session (15 industry and 2 government sponsors), as well as technical visit to the Schneider Electric company in Novi Sad and WiE meet-up.

IEEE R8 CEuSYP congress was organized in parallel to the EUROCON 2019, with 70 participants (plus 12 students in the organizing team and 15 volunteers) from 12 countries (Serbia, Croatia, North Macedonia, Poland, Slovenia, Greece, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Tunis, Kuwait, Ukraine, Germany and Lebanon). Participants at the CEuSYP could follow some of the EUROCON keynote plenary speakers and join some of the other social activities.

IEEE AFRICON 2019 (<http://africon2019.org>) will be held in Accra, Ghana, from 25 to 27 Sep 2019. According to the organizers, 300 papers have been submitted, and reviewers accepted 239 papers to be presented. The preliminary program has already been prepared.

IEEE HISTELCON 2019 (<https://www.histelcon2019.org>) will be held in Glasgow, UK, 18 to 19 Sep 2019. Details about these 2 conferences will be given in the report for the next meeting.

Within the 2019 IEEE GCIoT (Global Conference on Internet of Things) in Dubai, UAE, 4 to 7 December 2019 (<https://gciot.org>), as part of the industry track at the conference, a one-day focused Industry Summit on emerging technologies will be organized by Sohaib Qamar Sheikh (Industry Summit Co-Chair) and Khaled Mokhtar. The Industry Summit has separate agenda and registration fees from the conference and is scheduled on 5 December 2019. This experience will be invaluable for future R8 industry-focused events organized in collaboration with other R8 sub-committees.

IEEE R8 FLAGSHIP CONFERENCES 2020

IEEE ENERGYcon 2020 (<http://ieee-energycon2020.org>) will be held in in Gammarth, Tunisia from 13-16 April 2020. The organizers have announced the 6 keynotes and distinguished speakers, and have obtained technical co-sponsorship by several IEEE Societies (IEEE Power & Energy Society, IEEE Industry Applications Society, IEEE Industrial Electronics Society and IEEE Power Electronics Society) which promises big number of submitted papers and attendance. Paper submission is open and the deadline is 15 November 2019.

IEEE MELECON 2020 (<http://melecon2020.org>) will be held in Palermo, Italy from 16 to 18 June 2020. Paper Submission deadline is 16 December 2019.

IEEE R8 FLAGSHIP CONFERENCES 2021 - Approved by the OpCom

The R8 Conference Coordination Subcommittee (CoCSC) has made detailed evaluation of the submitted documents (detailed presentation and detailed budget) and has submitted a proposal to the OpCom for a final decision. The OpCom approved the proposal for the organizers and site selection of the 2021 R8 flagship conferences:

(a) EUROCON 2021 to IEEE Ukraine Section, Lviv, Ukraine, 6-8 Jul 2021. (b) AFRICON 2021 to IEEE Tanzania Subsection, Arusha, Tanzania, 13-15 Sep 2021.

IEEE R8 FLAGSHIP CONFERENCES 2022 - Call for host Sections

The R8 CoCSC will soon be e-mailing all Section and Subsection Chairs that the bid is open for a host Section for each of the next R8 flagship conferences in 2022:

(a) IEEE ENERGYCON 2022 (b) IEEE MELECON 2022 (c) IEEE IHTC 2021 - International Humanitarian Technologies Conference, initially held in R7, will start to rotate in a 3 years cycle between Regions 7, 8 and 9. IHTC 2020 will be held in R9 and IHTC 2021 in R8.

There is information on R8 CoCSC website: <https://ieeer8.org/category/technical-activities/conference-coordination> Sample proposals from previous organizers can be provided to interested applicants. The timeline for proposals is as follows: - Letter of intent: 1 December 2019 - Initial bid: 15 January 2019 - Final bid: 28 February 2020 - Results: after the next R8 OpCom meeting

Future flagship conferences already approved (progress reports). You can upload a maximum of 5. Each pdf file can have a maximum size of 1 MB

Motions to approve future editions, including venue, dates, general chairs, financial share (files to be attached). You can upload a maximum of 5 files. Each pdf file can have a maximum size of 1 MB.

For past conferences editions: preliminary report, or final report, including attendees, papers, acceptance rate, financial report. You can upload a maximum of 5 files. Each pdf file can have a maximum size of 1 MB.

Proposals for improvements

- Improving flagship conferences outlook: The R8 Conference Coordination Subcommittee (CoCSC) is communicating with the next R8 flagship conferences organizers the need to have diverse and hybrid topics/programs such as industry tracks, entrepreneurship sessions, humanitarian sessions, etc. so that the conference program becomes more attractive. This goal can be facilitated by involvement of R8 other subcommittees and incorporating their activities, like Professional and Educational Activities (PEA) and Action for Industry (AfI), as well as Students and Young Professionals (SYP), Standards and Women in Engineering (WiE). The other important way to increase the conference attendance is by inviting some of the big IEEE Societies to co-sponsor the flagship conference. An excellent example is the ENERGYCON conference having obtained technical co-sponsorship by IEEE Power & Energy Society, IEEE Industry Applications Society, IEEE Industrial Electronics Society and IEEE Power Electronics Society, and has highest number of submitted papers and attendance of all R8 flagship conferences. Having ENERGYCON as a topic specific conference, the next MELECON conferences can become more ICT focused. To investigate that possibility, the CoCSC (Ljupco and Peter) made initial contacts at CONVENE 2019 with Prof. Stefano Bregni, Vice-President for Conferences, IEEE Communications Society, to jointly organize MELECON 2020 with their first edition of MedCom conference planned for the first week of July 2020. However, both conferences have already selected the local organizers and the venue, MedCom 2020 in Athens, Greece and MELECON 2020 in Palermo, Italy. The contacts will continue for the next edition of MELECON 2022.
- To increase the low number of financial co-sponsorship (FCS) of conferences by R8 Sections and Chapters CoCSC shall organize informative sessions for Section Chairs during the R8 Committee meetings in order to increase the awareness of the benefits from Sections/Chapters FCS. R8 can support struggling sections with financial co-sponsorship providing conference seed funds. The new increased MGA TSC fees, as mentioned earlier in this report, will help conference organizers themselves to opt for FCS instead of TCS.
- There is also a need for increased awareness of Section Chairs on Region 8 Technical Co-Sponsorship Requirements. To have R8 FCS/TCS, the conference must have at the minimum, one R8 Section and one local Chapter as technical co-sponsor. Also at least 2 current or previous R8 committee members should be involved in the review process. It is important to understand that Section should not "just click Approve button" but have direct and substantial involvement in the technical program of the conference, and help organizers find and contact current or previous R8 committee members from the near region and motivate them to be involved. The CoCSC has several examples of requests for TCS from low quality conference organizers who do not comply with the requirements (given on the CoCSC web page <https://ieeer8.org/category/technical-activities/conference-coordination>).

Other Issues to report

The OpCom abolished the IEEE Region 8 fee of \$500 for TCS conferences where there is no financial involvement of any IEEE entity (not necessarily IEEE Region 8). This was on a recommendation from the CoCSC since this fee was with the same purpose as the MGA TCS Fee of \$1000 per TCS conference and \$15 per paper sent to IEEE Xplore, introduced for all conference applications received 1 January 2018 or later.

The MGA proposes TCS fee increase that will start after 1 January 2021 and will cover all the MGA costs, not only a part of them. This fee for service includes copyright, plagiarism checks, articles published in Xplore and MCE overhead. MGA proposes 3 options that are still discussed and will be submitted for decision to the IEEE Conference Committee and MGA Board. Proposed options for increase of the MGA TCS Fee:

- Option 1: \$1,000/conf + \$27/paper = \hat{c} Cost Split (Event : Paper) = (28% : 72%). Example: TCS conference with 100 papers \$1,000 + \$27 X 100 = \$3,700
- Option 2: \$2,100/conf + \$15/paper = \hat{c} Cost Split (Event : Paper) = (59% : 41%) Example: TCS conference with 100 papers \$2,100 + \$15 X 100 = \$3,600
- Option 3: \$1,500/conf + \$21/paper = \hat{c} Cost Split (Event : Paper) = (43% : 57%) Example: A TCS Conference with 100 papers \$1,500 + \$21 X 100 = \$3,600

Allocation options for geo units:

- Charge the TCS cost to MGA OU
- Charge to conference
- Hybrid charge to OU and conference (charge the conference fee to the OU and charge the paper fees to Conference)

Region 8 partnered with the IEEE Technology and Engineering Management Society (TEMS) in order to improve its portfolio in industry-focused events. The OpCom approved financial co-sponsorship (5%) of the TEMS flagship event, the 2020 International Conference on Technology and Entrepreneurship (ICTE), Bologna, Italy, 19-22 April 2020. Region 8 representatives will be Technical Program Co-chair Marios Antoniou and Co-Treasurer Peter Nagy.

Educational Activities Subcommittee (EASC)**Stamatis Dragoumanos****Goals**

2019 EASC goals are:

- To merge Professional Activities SubCommittee and Educational Activities SubCommittee.
- To promote EA as a tool for membership development.
- To revitalize Continuing Education Activities by combining them with Professional Activities.
- To maintain Pre-University Activities momentum (TISP, TISP week, EPICS).
- To explore the potential and promote IEEE Learning Network and IEEE eLearning Library.
- To collaborate with other OUs in order to increase EAs impact.
- To train Section Educational Activities Officers and promote EA volunteer manual

Status

Merging of EA and PA is in it's final stages. Changes in IEEE R8 Operations Manual are suggested to the opCom, in order to reflect the merging of the two committees.

EASC is in the process of agreeing this year's procedures and schedules

There is refinement of this year's activities and events going on in order to serve 2019's goals

Outlook

This year we expect the merged Professional and Educational Activities subCommittee to present programs and events that will add value to IEEE membership. This involves a combination of promotional efforts, organizing face-to-face and online events, exploring partnership opportunities inside of IEEE and externally, and supporting Section level efforts.

Points of Concern

Region 8 has 58 Sections and 7 subSections and spans in 3 continents. It's clear that there are very different educational needs and educational customs within Region 8's Sections. A huge effort is needed in order to adjust our activities in such way that they add value to the membership of all members of all Sections. Also there is need for more resources and detailed control in order our activities are effective and productive.

Other Issues to report

Electronic Communications Coordinator (ECC)

George Michael

Goals

The Region 8 Electronic Communication Coordinator's job is to facilitate communication, both between members of the Region 8 Committee, and between this committee and present or future IEEE members.

Progress against goals since the last report

- Performing updates to our new web server.
 - Updates include new security features and logging in an attempt to identify potential risks.
 - There is an increasing number of OUs that are being added to our Wordpress servers, currently we have 25 sites on our primary server.
 - The new styling requirements based on the IEEE guidelines were applied to our website theme.
 - Google analytics was re-enabled for the Regional meeting.
- We are improving the live streaming features of our meetings, we are preparing a setup which will not only stream the video footage from the monitors and the audio from the internal audio system but it will embed a video of the speaker as well.
- New security requirements by Google required us to perform certain updates to the upcoming meeting mobile application.

Points of Concern

- Due to the current hosting service being used, we are still unable to take some extra security measures that we would like to have. Thankfully, they announced a few days ago that they will be ready soon to give us the option to enable those pending measures.
- The iOS application of the last meeting was blocked by Apple as they believe that having an offline reports and meeting information archive is too simple to be considered an application. We are working our way around to enable this feature for iOS users again.

Statistics: Number of visits, posts, followers

- As requested below are some additional statistics:
- <https://www.facebook.com/ieeer8/> - 2,362 Followers
- <https://www.facebook.com/groups/2490621134/> - 8,750 Members
- <https://ieeer8.org/> - Over 39,000 views since last report

Proposals for Electronic Communication in R8 improvement

We seek to improve the mobile applications that are used during the meetings and to provide tutorials for the various tools we support (including but not limited to our website, mailing lists, presentation tools, vTools etc).

Other Issues to report

0

History Activities Coordinator**Anthony Davies****Goals**

The same goals as before (e.g. supporting Technology History activities, Milestone proposals, and encouraging students and YPs to take an interest in the technical history of their area of work and interest). Another goal is to find a successor for my position in the R8 Committee.

Progress against goals since the last report

Mainly progress with Milestone proposals and the work done towards the delivery of HISTELCON2019 in Glasgow. One Milestone is approved for unveiling in Glasgow, and it is hoped that at least one other in UK will be approved at the September meeting of the History Committee and one in Budapest for the Metro.

History Activities participation in conferences, meetings or other events

For much of 2019 my main IEEE activity has been the detailed organisation of HISTELCON2019 to take place in Glasgow 18-19 Sept 2019. Linked with that activity has been working with Peter Grant on the organisation of a Milestone Unveiling I set up the Eventbrite registration site for the 17th September events.

I participate in the meetings of the UK&I Section LMAG activity group committee and the main activity includes work for and visits related to planned Milestone proposals. EasyChair was used for the HISTELCON2019 paper submission and reviewing, etc. and communications with authors, and it is not easy to imagine how this could have been done otherwise except by some other similar system.

History Activities activities/initiatives planned

Continuation of current activities. Probable (e-mail) involvement in the plans/decisions for the next HISTELCON: One bid has been received from Russia. Decision of course lies with the R8 Committee.

History Activities activities/initiatives developed

The success or otherwise of all the Glasgow events of the week starting 16 Sept 2019 will be known by the time of the R8 Committee meeting in Spain !

Proposals for improvements

R8 could allocate a larger budget to History Activities: in particular, HISTELCON is called a 'flagship conference' of R8, but does not get significant funding from R8, if any.

Points of Concern

It is the intention that the authors of papers presented at HISTELCON2019 may be able to have them included in IEEE Xplore: that will need a fair amount of work following HISTELCON2019, and the availability of someone to do that is not certain. There is the on-going conference risk that some authors submit but do not plan to attend, and therefore must NOT be allowed to get their papers into IEEE Xplore by this route.

Other Issues to report

Getting IEEE approval for HISTELCON2019 was unexpectedly complicated, because of the needs to learn how to get the Letter of Acquisition, the access process for authors to the on-line electronic copyright form (eCF), getting access to CrossCheck, the tool for checking plagiarism, etc. For small conferences with limited time and people to organise them, this process is a difficult overhead and takes a lot of time and effort (and the need to learn how to use it). A simplified process for small conferences would be helpful

Humanitarian Activities Subcommittee

John Funso-Adebayo

Goals

To engage the R8 Humanitarian groups in global issues with regards to immediate location based actions, sequentially.

Progress against goals since the last report

90

HuAc participation in conferences, meetings or other events

Always there.

HuAc activities/initiatives planned

Direct engagement of IEEE sections in the R8 for humanitarian activities.

HuAc activities/initiatives developed

Ambassador programme. On-site assessment of sight project and events.

Proposals for improvements

To directly engage new and existing members of the IEEE through Section driven initiatives in projects and events (partnering with Sections), for all cadres of membership; To sustain the working relationship with the IEEE Hq and other IEEE Regions in advancing Technology for Humanity; To focus on the UNserved locations for the IEEE and Technology.

Other Issues to report

Non funding of willing volunteers due to diplomatic constraints and budget restraints.

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 mentionned 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 investissement 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 imprtant 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

Membership Development Subcommittee (MDSC)

Ievgen Pichkalov

Goals

R8 Membership Development Subcommittee working aligned with IEEE Member Activities goals in general, which are increasing R8 membership (through recruiting new members as well as retaining current members and recovering members in arrears), to promote grade elevations, and to increase awareness of IEEE membership's values.

In particular, we organize annual Volunteers Training in collaboration with other subcommittees. In addition, we began to deeply analyze the membership development statistics. We plan to continue those practices in the next year.

Our main goal is to change the overall negative 2019 trend to positive 2020 trend.

Points of Concern

This year the number of members is falls, in particular, according to the statistics of July 2019, we lost 2% (1384 members) of members compared to July 2018. One of the leaders of the negative trend is Iran -44.8% (594 members). It is 42% of all R8 drop statistic. However, the reason for this is the difficult economic situation and the drop in the exchange rate of the local currency. In this case, the annual IEEE membership fee becomes too large in national currency.

We also have a rather difficult situation with the number of members in Belarus - only 17 members by July 2019. The situation requires an urgent solution.

Also 17 Sections have less then 250 members by July.

Latest Membership Development figures

We showing decrease of 2% with the HG decrease 2.2% and Students decrease 1.5% by July 2019:

- 14 Sections met their retention goals. Last year: 28
- 17 Sections met their recruitment goals. Last year: 32
- 8 Sections met both recruitment and retention goals. Last year: 22

Trends

The overall trend is negative (-2%). Some Sections have a consistently low number of members or show a decrease in the number of members over the past 3-4 years. Only a small part of the Sections is growing from year to year by steady efforts.

Proposals for improvements

We plan to change the training system, focusing on practical tasks for participants, as well as creation of development plans for their IEEE units. We plan to receive feedback from volunteers on the results of the plans implementation. R8 Volunteers Training Workshop in Vilnius, Lithuania (June 21-22, 2019) showed good feedback and results.

We plan a deeper analysis of MD statistics comparing data by years and we will use 3D figures for it. Also we will request feedback from the Sections about key changes in membership numbers. This will allow us to more clearly understand the reasons for the changes and find solutions for sections.

In our opinion, the Belarus Section could more closely adopt the experience of neighboring Sections and develop chapters system that will provide additional benefits for local IEEE members.

Other Issues to report

Nominations and Appointment Subcommittee (N&ASC)

Margaretha Eriksson

Goals

To create a slate of candidates for R8 candidates for Director-Elect 2021 and Vice-Chairs 2020

Points of Concern

None

Calendar for nominations

According to R8 bylaws and adapted to the upcoming R8 meeting in Valencia.

Open positions

Candidates to Director-Elect, Vice-chairs for MA, SA, and TA

Nominations received

The number of nominations for candidates for Director-Elect were six and for Vice-chair positions seven.

Proposals for improvements

None

Other Issues to report

Next year the election process need to take into account the date for the R8 meeting in conjunction to Sections Congress in Canada in August.

Professional Activities Subcommittee (PASC)

Mohamed El Dallal

Goals

- Add professional Activities flavor in all educational programs
- Re-branding of new committee
- Acceleration Contest
- Participation in SYP congresses and Conferences
- Webinar with Section Educational Activities Officers
- Engagement in Continuing Education \{\}item Promote University Activity Programs
- Pre-University Activities Contest

Professional and Educational talks delivered

- Jan Vervekken - "Stress Prevention & Time Management" in CESYP
- Amith Khandakar - Norway Section "Project Management" (To be delivered)
- Iulia Motoc - CESYP
- Mohamed el Dallal - GCC SYP
- Dragoumanos Stamatis - HSYP (to be delivered)
- Iulia Motoc - WESYP (to be delivered)

Current list of speakers, identify the new speakers since last report

- Amith Khandakar
- Jan Vervekken
- Andreas Neumeier
- Khaled Mokhtar
- Hafidh Al Samarrai

Nominated not yet joined:

- Rui Costa
- Marwa Mohamed Mahmoud Amin
- Mohamed Amin
- Ahmad Bassam

Professional and Educational Activities developed/conducted

- Alpha Engineers
- Acceleration Contest
- TISP Week
- Speakers Program
- Entrepreneurship Week
- Peer group studding success stories book (on development)
- Webinar for Section Educational Activities Officers

Progress against goals since the last report

- All programs are redesigned to include Professional Activities flavor
 - ◦ Created adhoc Marketing team.
 - ◦ New logo for committee and all it's programs
 - ◦ A marketing plan is resided and is deployed and running
 - ◦ Promotional Material is designed and printed and used in Congresses
- Acceleration contest call is open. Call for judges is to be released in the beginning of October.
- ◦ Participated in GCC SYP, EUROCON, CESYP, IEEE PES-IAS PowerAfrica Conference
- ◦ Participation is agreed for WESYP, HSYP
- ◦ Negotiations for participating in JSYP and TSYP
- Conducted on 15th of July by EAB officers
- ◦ Speakers Program is reformed, Collaboration with YPs and AFI to reform Entrepreneurship Initiative.
- ◦ Ambassadors are selected and Entrepreneurship Week events are to be planned
- ◦ Added Continuing Education category in Acceleration Contest
- ◦ Peer study groups success stories book is on development.
- ◦ University Activity programs are promoted to all talks
- ◦ Acceleration Contest has University Activities category
- Created Alpha Engineers to gamify the planning of pre-university events. Submission is open (closes 2019/09/16)

Proposals for improvements

- To ensure continuity especially in Speaker Program, we propose the past chair to be member of next committee
- Since Speakers program will be in full extend, request for speakers will open early in order to have a better budget management

Points of Concern

- Inactivity of some members
- Last minute requests for speakers increases budget
- Very limited interest by Western European Sections - More promotional efforts are needed there.

Other Issues to report

Region 8 News

Alistair Dabbs

Goals

Points of Concern

Issues published in last year

Next planned issue

Progress against goals since the last report

Proposals for improvements

Trends

Finances

Other Issues to report

Section Vitality

Aleksandar Szabo

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

Standards Coordinator

David Law

Goals

Build a structured program to expand standards-related offerings consisting of:

- 1) Standards speakers for events and conferences
- 2) Whole standards tracks at events and conferences
- 3) Section and student branch events
- 4) Standards events

Progress against goals since the last report

The IEEE R8 Standards Coordination Subcommittee completed the process of building a structured program to expand standards-related offerings consisting of:

- 1) Standards speakers for events and conferences, this could be a keynote speaker on standards, a presentation such as demystifying standards, or a tutorial;
- 2) Whole standards tracks at events and conferences, this could be multiple speakers, presentations and/or tutorials;
- 3) Section and student branch events, these could be similar to standards tracks at events and conferences with the added potential to run the Standards Game;
- 4) Standards events which are when a local Section can work with the IEEE-SA to build a local standards event. More information can be accessed at <https://ieeer8.org/category/technical-activities/standards-coordination>. An email was sent to all sections to announce the new program.

Standards events developed/conducted

With the help of the IEEE Standards Association (IEEE-SA), a standards session on the importance of standards focusing on IEEE Standard 1547, Interconnection of Distributed Energy Resources, the local adoption and pilot conformity assessment program in Ghana, has been arranged for IEEE AFRICON 2019. As a result of an email to all sections announcing the structured program of standards-related offerings, opportunities are being perused with two sections, as well as an existing opportunity with another section. An opportunity to run the standard consensus-building game at a conference in both 2020 and 2021 is also being pursued.

The IEEE-SA Board of Governors (BoG) met in Estonia in May and held several outreach meetings. Additionally, IEEE-SA organised an event on ethics and autonomous and intelligent systems in partnership with the Estonian government and hosted a forum and reception with IEEE Section leadership participation. This resulted in an invitation to participate as a knowledge partner in the Tallinn Digital Summit. Upcoming IEEE-SA governance meetings in Region 8 include an IEEE-SA BoG meeting in Tel Aviv, Israel in January 2020 and an IEEE-SA Corporate Advisory Group meeting in Grenoble, France in April 2020.

Proposals for improvements

Find potential opportunities for Standards speakers, whole standards tracks at events, Section and student branch events or Standards events.

Points of Concern

Finding more potential opportunities for Standards speakers, whole standards tracks at events, Section and student branch events or Standards events.

Other Issues to Report

Strategic Planning Subcommittee

Antonio Luque

Goals

The Strategic Planning Subcommittee is responsible for developing R8 strategic and long-range plan, with goals and objectives.

The Subcommittee shall assist the Region 8 Committee to develop in an appropriate manner to meet all the IEEE-related needs of the Region and to continue to adhere to the R8 Committee Vision and Mission and to advise on amendments to this Vision and Mission and to monitor compliance with the IEEE Strategic Plan.

Much of the effort has been put in assisting the Director in the realignment process for Regions. At the MGA level it has been discussed and decided that the only way to proceed is to split Regions 8 and 10 into two new regions each. A plan is supposed to be presented during the November IEEE meeting series.

Progress against goals since the last report

During the last months, the main effort of the SPSC has been to provide viewpoints and suggestions to the Region Realignment taskforce set up by MGA at the beginning of the year. For that purpose, several calls were arranged by the committee, in order to discuss possible alternatives.

Possible ways of splitting the Region into two new Regions were analyzed, taking into account the membership numbers, population, cultural differences, finances, and IEEE penetration in the different countries that are currently included in Region 8.

During these calls, up to 8 different proposals were discussed, and the members of the SPSC voted on them, obtaining a ranked list. This list was presented to the MGA AdHoc on Region realignment, which provided further comments on them. The AdHoc team is expected to present a proposal during the November meeting series in Boston.

Events participation since the last report

Proposals for improvements

So far, there has been little involvement of the membership in the realignment process. During the Fall R8 meeting, it will be necessary to socialize the provisional proposals and hear about pros and cons of each one. It would be good to start thinking about the transition process.

Points of Concern

The splitting plan needs to be carefully developed in order to ensure a smooth and easy transition. Even though it is not strictly required, it would be convenient to listen to Sections and other OUs before approving any proposal.

Other Issues to report

Voluntary Contribution Fund Coordinator

Andreas Koltes

Goals

The Voluntary Contribution Fund (VCF) provides support for technical activities of members with low income (below \$10,000 per year). The main focus of the fund is to support travel and subsistence costs of researchers presenting their research at conferences in Region 8, which they would not be able to do otherwise due to the lack of finance. The main sources of the fund are additional voluntary contributions declared by IEEE members during the annual renewal of their membership.

In order to fulfil the mission of the fund, the key goals for 2019 are:

- Maintain the stabilized income stream of the fund of at least \$10,000 per year by raising awareness for the fund amongst the membership.
- Continue to increase awareness of the fund amongst potential applicants in order to issue at least 15 grants per year making full use of the target budget of \$10,000.
- Stabilize VCF publicity and promotion increased in previous years.

Historical Trends

Over the course of 2018, the income situation of the VCF has been stabilized with the income from donations in that year totaling \$13,937. This is an increase of roughly 20% over the situation before 2017. This means, that the fund is in the fortunate situation to be able to continue operating at the target budget level of \$10,000 while maintaining and even strengthening its reserves. This in turn will permit compensating future fluctuations of the income stream.

During 2018, a total of 11 payments have been made to grant holders totaling \$6,109. A delayed reimbursement has been completed in January 2019 amounting to \$500. Unfortunately, 3 grants approved totaling \$2,300 were not claimed by their holders as the holders decided to cancel their respective planned conference activities. Therefore, the fund used only 2/3 of its target budget in 2018 with the remaining funds going to its reserves.

Grant statistics: number of grants awarded, stats by country, age, gender. Comparison with historical data

At the time of writing, 7 grants have been approved in 2019, totaling an amount of \$5,300. In addition, 2 further grants are currently under evaluation, potentially amounting to \$1,800.

The grants already approved were granted to members of the sections of Egypt (1), Iran (1), Kenya (2), and Tunisia (3) with 5 of the grant holders being male and 2 female.

In total, 8 grant applications were rejected during the current year due to not meeting the application criteria.

Compared to previous years, the VCF continues to see diverse applications from a range of different countries, particularly from the African continent. So far, application numbers are slightly lower in 2019 than in past years, though.

Financial status

The fund is financially in a healthy state of operation with the target budget for 2019 being set at \$10,000.

The donation situation is expected to continue to be reasonably stable and the income of the fund in 2019 is expected to be above \$10,000 again. A meaningful income figure for the current year is not available yet, as the majority of income will be generated during the upcoming membership renewal season.

The reserves of the fund at the beginning of 2019 amounted to \$50,124. These are expected to grow moderately until the end of the year.

Future plans

As the number of grant applications dropped slightly in the current year when compared to the past, the current focus is on raising awareness of the fund with potential applicants. At the time of this writing, preparations for a social media outreach are underway to promote the fund.

Other Issues to report

Women in Engineering Coordinator

Ana Cigarn Romero

Goals

- Active and vibrant WIE AGs: Increase the vitality of Section and Student Branch Affinity Groups by getting closer to the active AGs, identifying and revitalizing dormant AGs, and creating AGs in the remaining sections with the help of Section Chairs.
- Awards: Increase the awareness about R8 WIE programs and awards, and engaging WIE members; and define clear and transparent selection criteria of awards
- Establish WIE participation and visibility in R8 flagship events
- Increase the WIE membership in R8 and continue the growing trend achieved in past years
- Identify women leaders in STEM and create a new program and award to encourage leaders in Technology, and rank them as experts or models to other IEEE Women in technology.
- Encourage IEEE STEM conferences in R8 to have Women as organizing members, scientific members and plenary talk speakers.
- Close cooperation with the IEEE R8 Young Professionals, IEEE R8 Action For Industry and IEEE R8 Humanitarian Activities Subcommittees.

Progress against goals since the last report

- Awards: we have defined clear and transparent selection criteria of the R8 WIE Awards and also of the Clementina Saduwa Award.
- WIE R8 has actively participated in R8 flagship events of 2019 with an active role (being part of the plenary session, speech and/ or giving a workshop)
- Pilot project of combined sessions of IEEE R8 WIE and YPs (held in EUROCON and the IEEE R8 CEuSYP) has been a full success and there are further plans to continue with this initiative in 2020.
- There is a continuous cooperation taking place with the IEEE R8 Young Professionals, IEEE R8 Action For Industry and IEEE R8 Humanitarian Activities Subcommittees using the model of Corresponding Membership.
- Stronger collaboration with MGA WIE as well as a with societies

WIE participation in conferences, meetings or other events

Please check the file ("190915_WIE R8_Participation in events_Status of September") for Information about the events WIE has participated/ will participate in 2019.

WIE activities/initiatives planned

- Combined sessions in IEEE flagship conferences/ events between IEEE R8 WIE and YPs in 2020
- Set an initiative together with the IEEE R8 HuAc SC to identify the reasons of lack of leadership opportunities of women engineers in the Middle East and Africa and, by this, set a program to support women engineers.
- Revitalize dormant AGs, find out what our members expectations and needs are, create programs that better serve the needs of our members
- Identify women leaders in STEM and create a new program and award to encourage leaders in Technology, and rank them as experts or models to other IEEE Women in technology
- Establish an efficient communication platform to support existing WIE AGs and guide the people who would like to create a new WIE AG via regular webinars to reach out members/chairs of WIE AGs and via a survey to establish communication channels and find out about expectations of members.
- Propose a new program in order to develop in young girls, during their first education life, the mind of engineer and guide their tendencies towards engineering passion and studies
- Further guide the organizers of the WIE ILS R8 in 2020 and ensure a higher number of participants for next year and more variety in the precedence of speakers.

WIE activities/initiatives developed

- Get in touch with WIE section AG and WIE Std AG to promote WIE programs and awards
- Update the Roster of R8 WIE AGs and send messages to verify the vitality of existing groups
- Establish contact with Section Chairs for Sections with no AG to create one
- Encourage IEEE STEM conferences in R8 to have Women as organizing members, scientific members and plenary talk speakers
- Providing help for the WIE ILS hosts from the R8

Proposals for improvements

- WIE ILS R8: ensure a higher number of participants for next year and more variety in the provenance of speakers.
- Establish a guide including criteria for the nomination of awards to increase the clarify for IEEE members wanting to apply

Proposals for improvements

- Due to the large number of WIE Section and Student AGs, effective ways of establishing connection and most importantly keeping the exchange going regularly is a challenge for the limited number of WIE Subcommittee members
- WIE AGs do not have sources for funding within Region 8. The only funding is an amount of 300 USD that should be requested from MGA 3 months prior to the event
- Sections should be encouraged to financially support their WIE AG events
- It is preferable to have regional support in case the Section is not able to
- There is no support for WIE AG representatives to attend events such as the SYP or other conferences
- As a start, active Section WIE AGs could send a funded representative (who is also a Student member or a Young Professional) to the SYP, which will provide significant motivation
- Means of involving WIE officers in various trainings, especially with the lack of funding

Other Issues to report

Young Professionals Subcommittee

Vinko Lesic

Goals

The main goals of the Region 8 Young Professionals team for 2018 are to:

- 1) Improve the status of Young Professionals Affinity Groups in Region 8, consisting of:
 - no inactive or dormant Young Professionals Affinity Groups in the Region;
 - reporting their activities on vTools in a timely manner, and they all having the minimum required 2 activity reports before the end of the year;
 - having their chairs in good standing, i.e., IEEE members and not chairing for more than 2 years without elections;
 - create at least 1 new Young Professionals Affinity Group in the Region;
- 2) Facilitate the implementation of Young Professionals programs, both existing ones: STEP (500\$), Meet-Up (1500\$) and Local Activity Funding (750\$, former Seed Funding);
- 3) Bridge the gap between the 3 main segments of Young Professionals by:
 - Supporting Young Professionals Affinity Groups to organize more STEP events and work closer with students in their Section;
 - Supporting Young Professionals Affinity Groups to organize more Meet-ups events and work closer with industry in their Section;
 - Supporting and encourage Young Professionals Affinity Groups to allocate resources to entrepreneurship activities;
- 4) Encourage and ensure the activities' visibility and recognition of Young Professionals Affinity Groups in the Region by Region 8 Young Professionals Newsletter and social media, Young Professionals Impact Blog, Region 8 News and IEEE Region 8 Today;
- 5) Cooperate with SAC for the continuous success of Cross-Sectional SYP Congresses and the Region 8 SYP Congress;
- 6) Cooperate with the other MA subcommittees and take advantage of each others' strengths to achieve our goals, particularly with PA, WiE and HuAC;
- 7) Create, update and share support material and manuals relevant for Young Professionals, focusing on strategies for getting funding and sponsorship for events and how to increase the publicity and visibility of their activities;
- 8) Focus not only on supporting active Young Professionals volunteers, but also on the development of programs that directly aim at increasing Young Professionals members satisfaction based on segmentation studies.

Progress reports for next xSYPs or SYP

Last year, we continued pursuing the 2-year term goals defined in the beginning of 2017. For a complete overview of our strategy, please refer to the reports submitted during the previous year.

- 1) Currently, there are 52 Young Professionals Affinity Groups in Region 8, a steadily increasing number in the last couple of years and closing to the number of sections and subsections. From these groups, all are active and with their reporting up to date, for the exception of a minority with whom we are closely working to ensure revitalization. In order to maintain our close relationship with the local volunteers, we kept the Affinity Groups equally divided by the R8YP team members, method that has been proven successful in the past. Email is the communication mean of choice, though Skype calls are frequently held with Affinity Groups facing more serious issues, on the process of being revitalized or with brand new committees.
- 2) Region 8 Affinity Groups maintain the success and visibility of the Region 8, delivering a high number of activities with exemplary quality. This is reflected on the usage of funding provided by IEEE YP and on the continued presence of Region 8 volunteers receiving recognition awards.
- 3) Last year, the Region 8 SYP Congress took place in Porto, Portugal. Tighter reimbursement measures and attendance criteria were implemented with good results. For further details on this matter, please refer to the SAC report.
- 4) Collaboration with the fellow subcommittees under Member Activities as so far been successful with:
 - PA - joint efforts on the delivery of content and presence at IEEE Flagship conferences;
 - SIGHT - by foresting the delivery of soft-skills training by local Young Professionals to newly formed SIGHT groups, by carrying the word of the humanitarian cause as part of the Young Professionals message and mission, by working on a joint presentation during the European Microwave Week 2018;
 - LM - by encouraging the subcommittee to be involved in the SYP Congress through the delivery of talks and experience sharing.
- 5) Based on the results from the segmentation study, two main programs and one visibility strategy were designed, focusing on reaching out directly to the Young Professional members:
 - Company Branch Program, now re-branded to "IEEE, Connecting Experts"; after the positive outcome of the survey (in 2017 and repeated in 2018), showing that the YP members in Region 8 consider such an initiative added value, a couple of companies and societies have been contacted, in order to establish a pilot program. The response is positive and supportive, opening way to the next steps and attracting more collaboration possibilities.
 - The YPitch competition has also been re-branded in to a broader program called "Region 8 Entrepreneurship Initiative". The new scope includes not only the competition, but also a mentorship platform, which could be supported by the Action for Industry Subcommittee's network. Up to this point, the focus has been on creating a strong standing of the entrepreneurship pillar within Region 8, increase the visibility of the initiative, fostering relations with suitable submits and constructing the database of mentors (which can double as judges for the competition). Official launch occurred during the Region 8 SYP Congress.

- Several meet-up events have been organized across Region. The R8 YP team has focused their efforts in 2: the Young Professionals in Space, which took place in July, in Barcelona, and the European Microwave Week, which took place in September, in Madrid. Both events aimed at exposing IEEE Young Professionals and its mission inside and outside the IEEE community, while at the same time providing the participants with opportunities of professional growth and networking environments. The efforts have shown to deliver positive results and been highly appreciated by the participants involved.
- 6) Increase of the visibility of Young Professionals in Region 8 has been achieved by participation and delivery of workshops in the Region 8 SYP Congress, support of Meet-up events at technical conferences, redaction and publishing of the YP Newsletter, launch of the Region 8 Entrepreneurship initiative and other online media campaigns. During the past year, we recorded a 20% increase in the number of likes of our Facebook page, maintaining the growth trend of the Young Professionals community and its engagement with the Region 8 team.
- 7) The overall status of Young Professionals Affinity Groups and Region 8 Young Professionals Programs at the end of 2018 has been recorded and the smooth transition is performed for the new Subcommittee, which has readily continued the work and coordination of the activities.

Progress reports for next xSYPs or SYP

<https://drive.google.com/open?id=1fwkHuvtlnlC9xIqR8wJzUSwYvAJBkH5x>

xSYPs approved since last meeting

This is a year of cross sectional congresses (XS SYPs) we organize together with R8SAC:

- WESYP, Glasgow, UK, Sep 19-21, together with HISTELCON (collaboration with HA)
- NSYP, Stockholm, Sweden, and Helsinki, Finland, Oct 25-27, as a collaborative effort of two sections and YPAGs
- HSYP, Xanthi, Greece, Nov 8-10,
- CEuSYP, Novi Sad, Serbia, July 2-4, together with EUROCON (collaboration with R8WiE, Serbia and Montenegro Section, IEEE societies and more)
- GCC SYP, Kuwait, Kuwait, April 19-20, together with 10th GCC Conference

YP activities planned

The new team has made a successful and continuous transition and maintained the tradition from former subcommittees, including established and proved operation strategy and already established collaboration contacts. For a complete overview of our strategy, please refer to the reports submitted during the previous year. Built on the firm foundations, this year we managed to significantly expand collaboration within IEEE Region 8 and globally, among Young Professionals and societies, bringing a stronger technical component to Young Professionals.

- Currently, there are 53 Young Professionals Affinity Groups in Region 8 with newly formed one in Denmark Section, and with a steadily increasing number in the last couple of years and closing to the number of sections and subsections. From these groups, all are active and with their reporting up to date, for the exception of a minority with whom we are closely working to ensure revitalization. In order to maintain our close relationship with the local volunteers, we kept the Affinity Groups equally divided by the R8YP team members, method that has been proven successful in the past. Email is the communication mean of choice, though Skype calls are frequently held with Affinity Groups facing more serious issues, on the process of being revitalized or with brand new committees.
- Region 8 Affinity Groups maintain the success and visibility of the Region 8, delivering a high number of activities with exemplary quality. This is reflected on the usage of funding provided by IEEE YP and on the continued presence of Region 8 volunteers receiving recognition awards.
- Collaboration with the fellow subcommittees under Member Activities, Technical Activities or societies as so far been successful with:
 - WiE - exchanged liaison and joint conference session at EUROCON, Power Africa and WiE Leadership Summit
 - PEA (former PA) - co-founded a new program IEEE Region 8 Entrepreneurship Initiative
 - ComSoc YP - organizing two Meet Up events at flagship conferences INFOCOM 2019 and IEEE WCNC 2019
 - MTTs YP - organizing two Meet Ups at European Microwave Week 2019 and Young Professionals in Space 2019
 - CSS YP - collaborative effort in organizing YP content at flagship conference CDC 2019
 - HA - organizing joint reception of HISTELCON / WESYP
 - IEEE Africa Ad Hoc - exchanging liaisons, organizing joint industry panel event at Power Africa conference
 - IEC - co-founded a new program IEEE Connecting Experts
 - AfI - incorporating their experience and volunteers in new program Region 8 Entrepreneurship Initiative

YP Activities developed

Based on the results from the segmentation study, two main programs and one visibility strategy that were designed previously, focusing on reaching out directly to the Young Professional members, have now been kick off:

- Company Branch Program, now re-branded to "IEEE, Connecting Experts"; after the positive outcome of the survey (in 2017 and repeated in 2018), showing that the YP members in Region 8 consider such an initiative added value, a couple of companies and societies have been contacted, in order to establish a pilot program. Support of Industry Engagement Committee made possible to hold 2 pilots in 2019, focusing on industry and followed by academia in Germany and Italy sections (scheduled 3 visits in 3 cities in each country by the end of the year).

- The YPitch competition has also been re-branded in to a broader program called "Region 8 Entrepreneurship Initiative". The new scope includes not only the competition, but also a mentorship platform. The program is kicked off in August and showed great initial results of attracting 110 ambassadors from 33 IEEE sections who will organize tech-entrepreneurship-focused event together with pitching competitions in their sections during Global Entrepreneurship Week in November. Two winners from each section will be put to an international pool of competitors to enter mentorship stage, with finals envisioned to take place at SYP congress 2020.

In parallel, a project proposal for IEEE Foundation grant was put together by our Subcommittee and PEA, with help of Afl and SAC. The project aims at taking the knowledge and success of program pilot in 2019 to the next level within Region 8, that also aims to bring whole new aspect (and increase) of membership. Results will be announced in December 2019.

- A stronger technical aspect of YP is being introduced, with new societies forming and supporting their own programs. Early success has been proved in co-organizing YP content at conferences with society YPs facilitating communication with conference chairs and R8YP facilitating communication with local AGs and bridging cultural and language barriers. The events aim at exposing IEEE Young Professionals and its mission inside and outside the IEEE community, while at the same time providing the participants with opportunities of professional growth and networking environments. The efforts have shown to deliver positive results and been highly appreciated by the participants involved.
- Increase of the visibility of Young Professionals in Region 8 has been achieved by participation and delivery of workshops in the Region 8 XS SYP Congresses, support of Meet-up events at technical conferences, redaction and publishing of articles in R8 Today and YP Impact Blog, launch of the Region 8 Entrepreneurship initiative and other online media campaigns, using mostly social media and e-notice as way of distributing the information. During the past year, we recorded a 20% increase in the number of likes of our Facebook page, maintaining the growth trend of the Young Professionals community and its engagement with the Region 8 team.

Proposals for improvements

This year's plan to attain the goals listed in the beginning of this report is given under the same order below:

- 1) Given its success, the AGs division strategy within the team will be carried on. As most of the existing Young Professionals Affinity Groups are currently in good standing or guided towards it, efforts will be directed mainly to revitalization and initialization. This requires constant collaboration with the parent Sections and even local Student Branches, who often have the manpower or connections to older volunteers fit to transition into the Young Professionals world. A new "group call" concept will be employed among neighboring Young Professionals Affinity Groups. The 53 groups have been split into 8 smaller groups based on their geographical location and standing (sensitive communication is maintained by Chair and Past-Chair). This will enable the Affinity Groups to share their practices and learn from each others' challenges on a regular basis. By getting acquainted with the surrounding Young Professionals Affinity Groups experiences, each group should feel less lonely in their struggles and learn new tricks on how to overcome them. In return, motivation and engagement should go up and the number of dormant groups should remain low or null. An increase of Cross-Sectional activities and cooperation beyond the SYP Congresses is also expected.
- 2) The information is set to be facilitated by active and regular communication with affinity groups and by sharing with them the latest information about the incoming and existing programs through e-mails, social media, Skype calls and the Newsletter. Region 8 meetings will be used as a mean to share the information and raise awareness of young professionals programs in front of Section chairs, especially important for the spring meeting since the lot of chairs are newly elected.
- 3) This year, the main focus will be on the implementation of initiatives and support of activities that aim to serve the Region 8 Young Professionals members in industry and tie them closer to academia, all the way from the ones at big well sustained companies to the ones that just started their own small business. This will be handled in 3 fronts:
 - Connecting Experts Program aims at reaching out to industry young professionals by bringing distinguished lecturers and R8PA Speaker Program lecturers to companies to show them significance and benefits of knowledge sharing, life-long learning and network of contacts and thereby the importance of IEEE membership. In 2017 and 2018 the surveys among all IEEE Young Professional members in Region 8 resulted in bringing focus on the power and energy sector, large companies and young professionals that have about 5 years of experience to lead the organization from the company side to host a lecture. Countries (sections) chosen for the pilot program are Germany and Italy as they showed the highest motivation in the responses.
 - The IEEE Region 8 Entrepreneurship Initiative aims at the segment of members that habit the Entrepreneurship ecosystem. The end-goal of this Initiative is three-folded: to strengthen the knowledge of our young entrepreneurs by providing them mentorship, boosting their network by putting them in contact with the relevant stakeholders and getting them global exposure by sponsoring their participation in Summits and other Entrepreneurship events of the kind. This transversal vision is achieved through two main platforms: a mentorship platform and a competition platform. There is currently no support or entrepreneur-aimed program in Region 8 and wider. On the other hand, this segment of young professionals is constantly growing and this is identified as one of significant reasons of losing members.
 - Meet-ups, new funding opportunity from IEEE Young Professionals. The Young Professionals Affinity Groups have now the chance to apply for up to 1500\$ to support the organization of meet-ups at relevant IEEE technical conferences in their Section. Since the relevant conferences are often globally renowned and are annually changing locations, the Region 8 Young Professionals team has put together a list of relevant conferences in the Region and is encouraging the Young Professionals Affinity Groups in the hosting sections to introduce high quality content for the younger participants. This is beneficial in 2 ways: on one hand, it stimulates networking between Young

Professionals members and on-site training of essential technical and soft skills at their career stage; on the other hand, it increases the visibility of Young Professionals in Region 8 and attracts new (young industry) people to join IEEE. Since 2019, we are receiving lots of external initiatives from societies' YP programs, proving the significance of the events.

- 4) The information is also set to be facilitated by active and regular communication with affinity groups and encourage them to actively participate in the dissemination of their events within the Young Professionals and Region 8 communities. The dissemination is proved to provide the added gain for the motivation among the affinity groups and create the necessary momentum.
- 5) Parallel to selecting and guiding the organization of GCCSYP, CEuSYP, HSYP, WESYP and NSYP, SAC and YP teams are looking into possible hosts for MESYP, and African SYP Congress.
- 6) Bridging the gap between the 3 main segments of Young Professionals by implementation of programs is envisioned to continue our effort in joint collaboration with MA subcommittees (and also wider). The Connecting Experts Program is planned to be discussed and carried out together with the support of AfI and TA. IEEE Region 8 Entrepreneurship Initiative implementation is set as a joint activity with PEA. Meet Up encouragement is planned to be continued together with WIE and also carried out with HuAC.
- 7) During the remainder of this year, the following additional manuals will be prepared: IEEE YP and R8YP Programs brochure for existing and new programs, the OU Analytics for YPs manual as a guide to fetch the member list easily, update of the How to organize a Region 8 SYP Congress manual and update of the vTools Reporting Manual according to the new user interface.
- 8) Young Professionals are at the core of IEEE's strategy for 2025. Representing a considerable slack of the totality of IEEE members and active volunteers, this is the period in which the personal decision of committing to IEEE and its ideology or not is taken. Focusing on this membership segment and its community needs is vital. Region 8 is one of the largest and, without a doubt, most culturally diverse of all Regions 1 to 10. As so, the Region 8 Young Professionals team plans to share its vision and concrete near future plan by contributing to the pool of recommendations being collected to the IEEE Sections Congress. Furthermore, an efficient approach will be well-thought-out and beforehand defined to gain (and give) the most out of (to) the event on-site;

Points of Concern

Young Professionals in Region 8 have grown immensely in the past few years and are now taking a new leap with societies recognizing the importance. Nevertheless, there is still room for improvement. This improvement is inherent to the successful development of programs focusing on Young Professionals in industry and connected to the entrepreneurship life; programs that are not only designed to be exploited by volunteers, but by members, which is expected to result in the highest return in form of retention. The Region 8 Young Professionals team has developed two programs to address the before mentioned point, but everlasting support of the Region 8 OpCom and other closely related subcommittees, as PEA and TA, is required, which may perhaps at some point even lead to stand-alone programs (e.g. IEEE Foundation Grant). Another point is related to Cross-Sectional and Region 8 SYP Congresses, which are drawing the most of energy out of the Subcommittee. This is additionally supported by slow and hesitating decisions due to sensitivity of host choosing process. It has been statistically seen that volunteering activity and member engagement has its peak right after these events. The success of these events has been substantial, which has led to unseen numbers of attendees and, in the case of the Region 8 SYP, volunteers fulfilling the funding criteria. With the increased number of congresses, additional effort is required from R8 SAC and YP. Deeper insight in the organizational process and necessary involvement of more experienced volunteers (Young Professionals category) as advisers is crucial to maintain the quality of the events since majority of them are facing the danger of losing participants. This has been emphasized in 2019 as never before, with most of the XS SYPs being organized or initiated by YPAGs. Financial support of these events by Region 8 might be required to maintain their quality and sustain the possibility of delivering training tracks to the participants by Region 8 Committee volunteers. Additional burden are last-minute decisions and often remote locations to maintain equal geographical diversity, which stresses the budget of the Subcommittee.

Additionally, new possibilities of further expanding of ASYP(s) is concluded in agreement with SAC to be additional challenge for funds, human resources (number of team members) and necessity of understanding of local climate. For this, collaboration within R8 and IEEE, and joint approaches to the topic seems to be mandatory.

Young Professionals have always represented a major fraction of the IEEE members, as one third of member, but only recently it has become undeniable their impact and contribution to the future of the institution. With retention and satisfaction rates steadily decreasing among young people during past years, IEEE is finally realizing that it is essential to adapt to this new changing world in order to remain a relevant engineering organization. Since 2019, the results are evident as this is the first year of registered increase in members in R8 and globally. As a result, the Young Professionals program is exponentially growing and becoming inherent to IEEE's strategy. We hope that Region 8 will continue to show its constant support as so far and enable the growth of this program to its full potential, in some cases hopefully even before IEEE as an institution is.

Other Issues to report

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Algeria Section

Abdelouahab Mekhaldi

List the activities carried out to foster relations with Industry and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help your Section in your industry-related activities?

A conference with the National Company of Electricity and gaz (Sonelgaz) was organized on February 2019. Some industrials are promoting financial sponsor for our conferences organized with IEEE. Algeria section has presented the most important activities during this meeting in order to improve membership section.

List the activities addressed to Students and/or Young Professionals and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your students and YP-related activities?

In general, international conferences are technically sponsored by our section and IEEE, students are encouraged to participate by papers or thesis for award.

List the activities carried out to retain and recruit members and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your membership-related activities?

In general, international conferences are technically sponsored by our section and IEEE, students are encouraged to participate by papers or thesis for award.

List the activities intended to support chapters, affinity groups, and student branches and the results obtained. List the related initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your support to chapters, affinity groups, and student branches?

Our section encourage some PhD students to have a free membership during conferences, they are selected according to the best presented papers





Austria Section

Reinhard Pfielgel

List the activities carried out to foster relations with Industry and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help your Section in your industry-related activities?

- Active chapters organize a wide range of events including industry participants.
- We'll continue to invite speakers from industry at local IEEE Austria Section events.
- 40 year anniversary celebration together with IEEE conference to foster exchange with industry members.
- Members from industry are invited to the 40 year anniversary.

List the activities addressed to Students and/or Young Professionals and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your students and YP-related activities?

- Active student branches with a wide range of events offering an attractive program for students.
- WIE growing strongly with many events; offering awards makes WIE visible within section.

List the activities carried out to retain and recruit members and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your membership-related activities?

- Technical activities organized mostly by the chapters and student branches foster the contact with the Section's members offering benefits for members to renew.
- Continue open and transparent communication by the Section within in its regular newsletter to keep members informed about all events many of which are made possible by their membership fees.

List the activities intended to support chapters, affinity groups, and student branches and the results obtained. List the related initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your support to chapters, affinity groups, and student branches?

- Continue with technical co-sponsoring of conferences (10+ in 2019).
- Regular meetings with chapters and student branches representatives to discuss new types of events, synergies and advertise events within the section.



Bahrain Section

Eshaa M. Alkhalifa

List the activities carried out to foster relations with Industry and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help your Section in your industry-related activities?

- Meeting with Minister of Oil and discussing how the Ministry can support the local IEEE section.
- A meeting with the Minister of Electricity and Water Affairs to discuss how the Ministry can support the local IEEE section.
- Meeting with members of the local Society of Petroleum Engineers (SPE) and discussing the possibility of signing an MOU.
- 3 February 2019: IEEE AMAIUB executive committee attended the event at Brinc Batelco IoT (The largest telecom company in the country) as part of collaboration with industry.
- 19-21 February 2019: IEEE AMAIUB along with IEEE Bahrain actively participated in organizing the International Conference on 4th Industrial Revolution at Gulf Convention Center, Bahrain and held a booth at the exhibition to represent IEEE activities.
- 18 March 2019: IEEE AMAIUB Executive Committee attended the Digital Business Ecosystem Research Forum which was conducted at Zain e-Learning Center, UoB (The center is under the supervision of a second telecom company in Bahrain).
- A meeting to discuss collaboration with the organizers of the Geoscience Conference and Exhibition (GEO) that will be held in March 2020, and is organized by a large private organization.

List the activities addressed to Students and/or Young Professionals and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your students and YP-related activities?

- A free entry IEEE membership development event was organized in the five star Crown Plaza Hotel in order to discuss with existing and future members all the merits of joining IEEE and how their vision of IEEE Bahrain Section can evolve to serve all stakeholders. It was attended by a lot of people both members and non members.
- The AMA University in Bahrain held an Anniversary Event for the formation of the AMA student branch which was attended by the VP Dr Buena Gracia Canzana and Dr. Eshaa Mohammed Alkhalifa, Chair of the Bahrain Section and a meeting was held immediately following the event to discuss how to attract more members to join and be more active in IEEE.
- Dr. Resala Al Adraj started a live programming competition and obtained Tamkeen sponsorship as well as University of Bahrain sponsorship and support. Students were encouraged to join IEEE as they signed up for the competition that was held over three separate events in addition to a training session.

- 19-21 February 2019: IEEE AMAIUB along with IEEE Bahrain actively participated in organizing the International Conference on 4th Industrial Revolution at Gulf Convention Center, Bahrain and held a booth at the exhibition to represent IEEE activities.
- 26 March 2019: IEEE AMAIUB along with IEEE Bahrain hold their booth and had active participation as part of organizing the Charity Dish activity at AMA International University, Bahrain
- 19-23 April 2019: Ms Nawal, an IEEE AMAIUB student was nominated and supported by the Bahrain Section to attend the 10th GCC Conference and Exhibition Kuwait. This encourages other students to join as members.
- 30 March 2019: IEEE AMAIUB students had active participation as part of organizing the Ghabga Night at AMA International University, Bahrain
- 24 June 2019: IEEE AMAIUB students attended an event in Brinc Batelco IoT Hub, Kingdom of Bahrain.
- 11 July 2019: IEEE AMAIUB along with Community Engagement CCS and IEEE Bahrain STB organized a public lecture by Dr Leidy Johanna Ortiz Arias, IEEE Colombia STB entitled "IEEE Professional Awareness".
- GEO conference offered the Bahrain SECTION a booth in the exhibition in March 2020 to promote membership and show student showcase.

List the activities carried out to retain and recruit members and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your membership-related activities?

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- 19-21 February 2019: IEEE AMAIUB along with IEEE Bahrain actively participated in organizing the International Conference on 4th Industrial Revolution at Gulf Convention Center, Bahrain and held a booth at the exhibition to represent IEEE activities and students participated.
- 26 March 2019: IEEE AMAIUB along with IEEE Bahrain hold their booth and had active participation as part of organizing the Charity Dish activity at AMA International University, Bahrain. The student branch at AMA ran this activity.
- 19-23 April 2019: Ms Nawal, an IEEE AMAIUB student was nominated and supported by the Bahrain Section to attend the 10th GCC Conference and Exhibition Kuwait. This encourages other students to join as members.
- 30 March 2019: IEEE AMAIUB students had active participation as part of organizing the Ghabga Night at AMA International University, Bahrain
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- 11 July 2019: IEEE AMAIUB along with Community Engagement CCS and IEEE Bahrain STB organized a public lecture by Dr Leidy Johanna Ortiz Arias, IEEE Colombia STB entitled "IEEE Professional Awareness". The student branch ran this activity.
- GEO conference offered the Bahrain SECTION a booth in the exhibition in March 2020 to promote membership and show student project showcase.

List the activities intended to support chapters, affinity groups, and student branches and the results obtained. List the related initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your support to chapters, affinity groups, and student branches?

- 21 May 2019 : Ramadan Social Gabgha event was held in collaboration with the Society for Excellence and Academic Research.
- 22 January 2019: IEEE AMAIUB, CCS and CE students visited Brinc Batelco IoT hub and attended a talk there encouraging them to consider going into entrepreneurship.
- 3 February 2019: IEEE AMAIUB executive committee attended the event at Brinc Batelco IoT as part of collaboration with industry.
- 19-21 February 2019: IEEE AMAIUB along with IEEE Bahrain actively participated in organizing the International Conference on 4th Industrial Revolution at Gulf Convention Center, Bahrain and held a booth at the exhibition to represent IEEE activities.
- 18 March 2019: IEEE AMAIUB Executive Committee attended the Digital Business Ecosystem Research Forum which was conducted at Zain e-Learning Center, UoB.
- 26 March 2019: IEEE AMAIUB along with IEEE Bahrain hold their booth and had active participation as part of organizing the Charity Dish activity at AMA International University, Bahrain
- 19-23 April 2019: Ms Nawal, an IEEE AMAIUB student was nominated and supported by the Bahrain Section to attend the 10th GCC Conference and Exhibition Kuwait.
- 30 March 2019: IEEE AMAIUB students had active participation as part of organizing the Ghabga Night at AMA International University, Bahrain
- 20 June 2019: IEEE AMAIUB students participated in the Programming Competition at UoB and won the third prize.

- 24 June 2019: IEEE AMAIUB students attended an event in Brinc Batelco IoT Hub, Kingdom of Bahrain.
- 11 July 2019: IEEE AMAIUB along with Community Engagement CCS and IEEE Bahrain STB organized a public lecture by Dr Leidy Johanna Ortiz Arias, IEEE Colombia STB entitled "IEEE Professional Awareness".
- 25 July 2019: Celebrating the first anniversary of launching IEEE Student Branch at AMAIUB, Awarding the past students' officers and introducing the new officers.
- The international 4th Industry & Revolution Link as below 19-21 Feb2019 <https://www.industry4conference.org>
- 2019 8th International Conference on Modeling Simulation and Applied Optimization (ICMSAO). Link as below 15-17 April 2019 <http://icmsao.uob.edu.bh>
- 2019 10th IEEE-GCC Conference and Exhibition Link as below 19-23 April 2019 <http://sites.ieee.org/saudi-arabia/10th-ieee-gcc-conference-exhibition-kuwait.html> 10 GCC SYP Congress - Kuwait
- 22nd - 23rd August, 2019, IEEE International Conference on Computing, Electronics & Communications Engineering 2019(IEEE iCCECE '19) London Metropolitan University, UK
- 19-20 August, 2019, International Conference on Emerging Technologies in Computing 2019 (iCETiC '19) London Metropolitan University, London, UK



Meeting With Minister of Oil Sh. Mohammed Bin Khelifa Al Kahelifa



Meeting with Minister of Electricity And Water Affairs



Membership Development Event



Student Programing Competition



Belarus Section

Yuri Bobkov

List the activities carried out to foster relations with Industry and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help your Section in your industry-related activities?

Activities & initiatives work well in Belarus Section to foster Industry Relations: close cooperation with National Academy of Sciences of Belarus (SSPA "Optics, Optoelectronics and Laser Technology", Stepanov Institute of Physics), Universities



(Belarusian State University, Belarusian State University of Informatics and Radioelectronics, Belarusian National Technical University), and enterprises in the field of microelectronics, microwave electronics and photonics. Belarus Section regular invites speakers from industry for local technical meeting. Belarus Section invites IEEE members and students to local technical exhibitions.

List the activities addressed to Students and/or Young Professionals and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your students and YP-related activities?

In order to attract more new members, Belarus Section invites students and Ph.D. students to attend all Section and Chapters technical meetings. Belarus Section organizes student visits to enterprises in the field of microelectronics, microwave electronics and photonics.

List the activities carried out to retain and recruit members and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your membership-related activities?

In order to attract more new members, Belarus Section invites students and Ph.D. students to attend all Section and Chapters technical meetings. Belarus Section organizes student visits to enterprises in the field of microelectronics, microwave electronics and photonics.

List the activities intended to support chapters, affinity groups, and student branches and the results obtained. List the related initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your support to chapters, affinity groups, and student branches?

Regular meetings with engineers from industry, meetings with Ph.D. students (from National Academy of Sciences of Belarus, Belarusian State University, Belarusian State University of Informatics and Radioelectronics, Belarusian National Technical University) are organized to foster Section Vitality. Belarus Section provides sponsorship of scientific events, like Belarusian-Lithuanian Workshop "Microwave devices and systems"

Benelux Section**Mark Bentum**

List the activities carried out to foster relations with Industry and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help your Section in your industry-related activities?

There are a couple of things we do in the section to increase industry participation in the IEEE activities. For a start, we try to find industry partners in the Section board. We also motivate Chapters to do the same. Some Chapters in the Section are even run by volunteers from industry. In the upcoming year we will organize a special event to bridge the gap between industry and academia ... "IEEE Benelux - Industry meets Academia 2019". Provisional data is in spring 2020.

List the activities addressed to Students and/or Young Professionals and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your students and YP-related activities?

In the Benelux we are addressing the future IEEE members in the Student Branches at the various Universities. This is working very well. In most universities the Student Branches are very vibrant. In case this is not the case (this was for instance the situation in one of the Dutch Universities) we actively approach active members and stimulate them to start up a meeting to engage students (MSc & PhD students) to setup a Student Branch. In this particular situation this was successful. The Section is supporting the Student Branches financially and content wise as well. In the Benelux the number of members is increasing. Students in the Benelux Section are very active in the IEEE paper contest. Recently two students won the R8 IEEE student paper contest 2019 (SPC2019).

List the activities carried out to retain and recruit members and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your membership-related activities?

The IEEE Benelux Section is traditionally doing very well in retaining members as well recruit new members. The new members recruitment is mainly done via the student branches. Actively involve and engage students in IEEE activities is working well. We stimulate these activities via the Section.

List the activities intended to support chapters, affinity groups, and student branches and the results obtained. List the related initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your support to chapters, affinity groups, and student branches?

The vitality in the Section, Chapters, Student Branches is one-on-one related to the number and quality of the activities (to our opinion). Stimulating to organize local activities like conferences, network opportunities, cross-chapter activities etc, is one of the actions of the Section. In our ExCOMs we invite the Chapters explicitly, let them present their activities and help them wherever we can. Of course, some Chapters are more vibrant than others, but in general we are very pleased with the local activities in the Benelux.



Bosnia & Herzegovina Section

Meliha Selak

List the activities carried out to foster relations with Industry and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help your Section in your industry-related activities?

IEEE B&H section activities are focused on foster relations with the industry. The section organized the debate related to "Solar Tree" design cosponsored by the local municipally and our PES and IAS chapters. Also, our PES chapter Indicated a project on restoration of the first hydro plant in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The next months, our PES chapter will provide the workshop on "harmonics in PES" that is high interest of B&H industry including the electrical utilities in B&H.

Region could help us with providing some financial support to bring some experts from technical area of our industry interest.

List the activities addressed to Students and/or Young Professionals and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your students and YP-related activities?

Our section provide the financial support to our YPs to participate in IEEE Central European Student and Young Professionals Congress 2019 (CEu SYP) in Novi Sad. July 2-4, 2019.

Also the section providing the financial support for the travel expenses for event organized in connection to YP day.

List the activities carried out to retain and recruit members and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your membership-related activities?

IEEE B&H section sponsors technically a few technical conferences held around Bosnia and Herzegovina. Our request all these conferences is to provide us a slot at conference opening to present the IEEE and IEEE membership. In addition, we request that the section and IEEE R8 logos will be added as the conference supporters.

List the activities intended to support chapters, affinity groups, and student branches and the results obtained. List the related initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your support to chapters, affinity groups, and student branches?

Our section technically sponsored a few conferences that are of high interest of our societies members. Our members are involved at these conferences as the conference chairs or key note speakers. The following conferences were sponsored in past 6 months:

- INFOTEH-18th International Symposium INFOTEH-JAHORINA Mar 20- 22, 2019 East Sarajevo, B&H: <https://www.infotech.rs.ba>

- CMBEBIH 2019 International Conference on Medical and Biological Engineering May 16-19, 2019. Banja Luka, B&H: <https://cmbebih.com>
- InTsikt-XV International Symposium on Information and Communication Technologies: June 10 - 11, 2019. Tuzla, B&H: <https://intsikt.ba/wp/en/home-2>
- FOAN 2019 8th International Conference on Fiber Optics in Access Networks Sept 2-4, 2019, Sarajevo, B&H: <https://foan.info>
- Our PES Chapter led by Vedad Becirovic, the chapter chair received the IEEE PES Outstanding Chapter Award at IEEE PES General Meeting in Atlanta. This Award is a great recognition for our section and for Vedad Becirovic.

Bulgaria Section**Kiril Alexiev**

List the activities carried out to foster relations with Industry and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help your Section in your industry-related activities?

We continue our efforts to improve our relations with the Industry. This year our focus is on co-hosting conferences under the auspices of the IEEE. An example of this is the recently (two weeks ago) held Metrology and Metrology Assurance Conference (<http://www.metrology-bg.org>) in which some of the largest companies in Bulgaria participated as financial co-sponsors. These joint events enable us to meet with participants from the industry and seek new opportunities for collaboration. The next planned event is the Telecom Conference. This year we resign contracts with 4 professional Unions in Bulgaria. These organizations are working in close relationship with Industry.

List the activities addressed to Students and/or Young Professionals and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your students and YP-related activities?

Our Young Professionals Activity Group was not so active last year and we are thinking how to motivate them and organize more very successful and attractive events. This year we organized election and new leaders were elected. We are trying to stop the negative trend and restore the activity of the group from previous years.

List the activities carried out to retain and recruit members and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your membership-related activities?

In 2019 year the number of IEEE members in Bulgaria is slightly increased - 255 members (June 2019). This trend is good one and we will recruit new members for the 2020 using several new initiative. One of them is discount for participation of IEEE members in Conferences with support of IEEE. This is especially attractive for recruitment of new members from Academy.

List the activities intended to support chapters, affinity groups, and student branches and the results obtained. List the related initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your support to chapters, affinity groups, and student branches?

Each chapter has a list of activities, planned for this year. On the Section level we signed several amendments with several of Professional Unions in Bulgaria. These Amendments were confirmed by President of IEEE. They contain lists of joint events for 2019 year, that will be organized in Bulgaria.

Croatia Section

Maja Matijasevic

List the activities carried out to foster relations with Industry and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help your Section in your industry-related activities?

- As reported previously, our section has a relatively low number/percentage of IEEE members from industry. We will continue working towards better IEEE visibility through collaboration with local industry associations and develop connections with local start-up ecosystem to attract young companies in technological sector that can benefit from access to international IEEE network and knowledge.
- Our SIA, Dubravko Sabolic, participated in the international panel discussion organized within the scope of the 5th International Forum on Research and Technologies for Society and Industry (RTSI) in Florence, Italy, in September 2019. RTSI was technically cosponsored by several IEEE R8 sections, including Croatia Section.
- Our SIA team plans to initiate a series of events that starting in October 2019, in which notable business people, mainly from Croatian companies, will give lectures or lead short workshops for IEEE members and engineering students. We are discussing the options to introduce short workshops/bootcamps or similar events, not oriented exclusively towards academia members or scientists, where participants could obtain useful professional skills and, if applicable, relevant certificates. In such programs there would be a discounted fee for IEEE members.
- IEEE and the Region 8 should support efforts of local SIA teams by dedicating budget for Industry Relations projects and providing a platform for sharing ideas and success stories between SIA team coordinators.

List the activities addressed to Students and/or Young Professionals and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your students and YP-related activities?

- The Student Branch at the University of Zagreb, with the support from the Section, organized an event addressed to Students and YPs, called Zagreb Energy Congress (ZEC), on April 10-13, 2019, in Zagreb, Croatia. ZEC program offered talks by industry experts and academic speakers, a visit to the "Rimac Automobili" factory, as well as rich social program and networking opportunity.
- In March 2019, IEEE membership promotion activities, using the beginning of the half-price membership period as an incentive, was organized throughout Croatia by the student branches at the Universities of Zagreb, Osijek and Rijeka. New members were recruited.
- In the next six months, we are planning to organize following events:
 - IEEE Promotional activities as the new academic year starts. This includes IEEE Day events and promotions organized by all three student branches and YP AG. We expect this to increase the number of members.
 - The annual Croatian Student and Young Professionals Congress (CroSYP), hosted in a different city every year. The 2019 event, organized by the student branch of the University of Rijeka, will take place in Rijeka, Croatia, from 27th to 29th September 2019. This event will provide volunteer training and networking.
 - Young Professionals are planning to organize a YP Meet-up event, co-located with the 27th International Conference on Software, Telecommunications and Computer Networks (SoftCOM 2019), which takes place on September 19-21, 2019, in Split, Croatia. This event will promote IEEE and potentially attract new members.
- The Region could help by improving the flow of information from the regional committees to the local level. Currently, it is difficult for us to find the relevant information on events/actions/promotions/funding that are active within IEEE. It would be better to present this information on the regional committee website, instead of relying mainly on social media.

List the activities carried out to retain and recruit members and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your membership-related activities?

The activities carried out to retain and recruit members were linked to having a steady flow of various events (co)organized by our technical chapters, affinity groups and student branches. All events are announced on the Section's web site and promoted locally, mainly in cooperation with universities. Students and young professionals also organize events of interest (lectures, meetings, social events) and recruitment activities. As a result, the number of members is steadily increasing (660 at the end of August, compared to 613 at the end of February 2019). In the year 2018, we had excellent track record in both retention (98.6 % goal achieved) and recruitment (147.6 % goal achieved).

In the next six months, we plan to run the recruitment and training of new volunteers, and consider running a local IEEE Senior Member initiative, based on personal invitations to outstanding members to be nominated by the Section.

List the activities intended to support chapters, affinity groups, and student branches and the results obtained. List the related initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your support to chapters, affinity groups, and student branches?

Our success is the result of the continuous work of our Section officers/coordinators as well as the vitality of our chapters, affinity groups and student branches. We ensure timely annual reporting of officers, meetings and finances to be eligible for the bonus. The activities planned in the next six months include:

- organizing and technically cosponsoring meetings, workshops and conferences in the Section;
- elections in chapters and incoming chapter chairs meeting and training;
- supporting student activities and participation of student representatives in international and local SYP events;
- Pre-University education and STEM programs, including Teacher-in-Service-Program (TISP);
- Section awards (nomination are currently open);

- Section annual meeting/dinner in November 2019.

From the Region we expect help/guidelines and workshops for volunteers to improve Section operation and vitality.

Cyprus Section

Elias Kyriakides

List the activities carried out to foster relations with Industry and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help your Section in your industry-related activities?

The IEEE Cyprus Section supports the Action for Industry (AFI) initiative IEEE Region 8 in order to rejuvenate IEEE's involvement with the industry and develop strong working partnerships between IEEE and industry. The IEEE Cyprus Section in 2019 continued to implement the MOU agreements for internship programs with 9 companies from the telecom, energy and computer sectors and has 39 internships for our student and YP members were successfully completed. The IEEE Cyprus Section during the IEEE Day will organize a booth exhibition from established and start-up companies, along with a social event, for all our members.

List the activities addressed to Students and/or Young Professionals and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your students and YP-related activities?

The IEEE Cyprus Section will continue sponsoring events, activities, competitions and seminars, related to new technologies and other issues that are for the interest of the students, organized by the student branches in cooperation with their universities. The implementation of internship and mentoring programs through the Action for Industry Initiative will provide value to students and young professionals. Through the internships they will be able to acquire working experience and opportunities for future employment. We have appointed the outgoing Chair of our very successful University of Cyprus Student Branch as the Student Branches coordinator to stimulate all Student Branches to further upgrade their activities. The seminars organized frequently by the University of Cyprus Student Branch are especially successful for student recruitment.

List the activities carried out to retain and recruit members and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your membership-related activities?

The Section supports financially the chapters and student branches in organizing technical activities for our members. We stress that during those activities special attention should be given to recruitment. Our MD officer is very active in contacting members that did not renew in order to do so. We are happy that both our retainment and recruitment goals are being achieved.

List the activities intended to support chapters, affinity groups, and student branches and the results obtained. List the related initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your support to chapters, affinity groups, and student branches?

Since vitality is one of the three focus areas of Region 8, it is also of high priority for the IEEE Cyprus Section. For the next period we are planning the following activities:

- Finalize the Legal Registration of the IEEE Cyprus Section.
- Continue updating our website <http://ieee.org.cy>
- Keep metrics related to membership development. Contact deactivated members and ask them to renew.
- Motivate members to apply for Senior Membership.
- Further enhance the collaboration between SBs.
- Organize seminars and workshops for our members.
- Teacher In-Service Program (TISP) : organize workshops in high schools
- Continue supporting the Action for Industry (AFI) initiative.
- Encourage the chapters that are not so active to organize more activities : a Chapters Coordinator has been appointed.

Czechoslovakia Section

Frantisek Mach

List the activities carried out to foster relations with Industry and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help your Section in your industry-related activities?

We are trying to get closer to industry through the following techniques: Realized:

- Industry tours organized together with Student Branches
- Participation of industry in students conferences and workshops
- Action for Industry internships at NXP
- Action for Industry activities promotions at job fairs and during meetings with industry representatives

Planned:

- Participation of invited industry speakers in IEEE Day workshops
- Follow-up meetings with industry representatives (new MoU for AFI)
- Sponsorship and active involvement of the industry at conferences organized locally (more industry engagement)
- Action for Industry activities and internships promotion (AFI visibility and internships delivered)

IEEE Region 8 helps sufficiently, together with IEEE YP grants. However, one-time or once-per-year activities have only limited impact, and sustainable series of events are not supported by IEEE.

IEEE Corporate Partnership could be one of the future models which would help sections to engage with corporates at the national level. However, the CPP is not very successful and needs to be driven more by volunteers and potential industry partners rather than IEEE staff.

List the activities addressed to Students and/or Young Professionals and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your students and YP-related activities?

Jordan Section has witnessed large increases in its membership. The section now is a large section with more than 1,500 members. We attract and support future members through the following techniques:

Realized:

- Student and YP conferences organized by student branches)
- Professional competitions for high school and university students
- Student workshops and invited professional lectures
- Financial support of meetings rooms/labs of student branches

Planned:

- Workshops within IEEE Day (student and YP meetings with industrial partners and professional lectures)
- Industry tours and students meeting with industry professionals
- Best Paper Awards presented at the conference of PhD students

List the activities carried out to retain and recruit members and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your membership-related activities?

Realized:

- Technical sponsorship of professional conferences (section visibility at local events)
- Free membership for winners of student competitions

Planned:

- Section Annual Meeting organized not only as a meeting but also as a professional event (lab tours, expert lectures, joint reception, etc.)

Our section is organizing more than 50 events annually, including technical conferences, workshops, student competitions and other activities, which attract new members and engage current members.

List the activities intended to support chapters, affinity groups, and student branches and the results obtained. List the related initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your support to chapters, affinity groups, and student branches?

Realized:

- Periodic ExCom meetings with local chapters or student branches chairs
- Financial support of meetings rooms/labs of student branches

Planned:

- Follow-up meetings with industry representatives (new partners for chapters financial and also professional support)
- Annual Meeting of Czechoslovakia Section (two-day meeting of IEEE volunteers and members)
- Launch of the new section and YP websites
- ExCom meetings with student branches

Section vitality is at a reasonable level. However, more local volunteers would be needed in all levels: from events organization to section management. Professional and also, social events are not aligned with the motivation of commercial sponsors. Therefore, sections have to cover the costs. Support from Region 8 or MGA would be highly appreciated.

Denmark Section

Yongheng Yang

List the activities carried out to foster relations with Industry and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help your Section in your industry-related activities?

The section has supported two local workshops/seminars which all had attendance from the local industry. One workshop was related to power electronics, power systems, and wind energy technology. Several smaller events of interest to industry were held at the Technical University of Denmark and Aalborg University. All events have had the ambition to exchange information and create relations between the Danish industry and academia in Denmark, and we believe this is one of the important roles for the local IEEE section. Furthermore, the Chair of Section has also attended a local seminar in Aarhus and Copenhagen, and presented a technical talk, where the attendees were all from industry. The seminar was organized by an industrial association in Denmark. After those, future plans were made between the Section and the local industrial organization. Currently, the Vice Chair of the Section, who is from the Danish industry, is striving to connect the local industry with the section and institutions. In the next months, we will try to establish the connection and make more activities with the industry. We would like to see - what benefits the Section can bring to the industry. Probably, the Region can give some advice.

List the activities addressed to Students and/or Young Professionals and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your students and YP-related activities?

The IEEE Denmark Section Young Professionals (YP) and Women in Engineering (WiE) Affinity Groups have been officially approved in July. This will work better in creating activity and making awareness of the IEEE to students at the academic institutions as well as benefit the WiE in Denmark. In those past months, the two students branches in the IEEE Denmark Section have been very active organizing events, making newsletters, etc., but it has also been recognized that it is difficult to maintain that active level. In June 2019, the Student Branch at Aalborg University held the IEEE PELS Day, where received much good feedback from the students. We believe that the YP and WiE groups could be a better platform to have more continuity in the activity level for students and young professionals. The section has had, and will continue to have, a focus on attracting new student members, and promoting the IEEE activities among the students in Denmark. In the next months, the major task is to finalize the election of officers for the YP and WiE groups. Afterward, the activities will be organized according to the plans included in the petitions. We will expect a further increase of the members in the section. Currently, we had an increase of +10% in the number of members in the section (from April to August). The majority members are student members. With the two AGs, we will increase the visibility in the Region in the next months as well. In terms of financial support or other support, how to manage and apply from the Region? Maybe the Region can advise a bit.

List the activities carried out to retain and recruit members and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your membership-related activities?

The section has just received the 2019 Outstanding Section Membership Recruitment Performance banner from the IEEE Membership Recruitment and Recovery Committee. In the past months (April to August), the number of members in the Section has increased to 928 from 817, corresponding to +10% increase. This is a very encouraging recognition of our Section's work. We will continue with the plans for retaining and recruiting members - to organize more events in the section and to work with the chapters, student branches, and AGs in the section. Moreover, we will connect to the industry to attract members from the local industry.

List the activities intended to support chapters, affinity groups, and student branches and the results obtained. List the related initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your support to chapters, affinity groups, and student branches?

Till now, we have been involved in 6 events, where chapters and student branches were involved. By the next reporting cycle, we should have more than 12 events in total, which is considered high. We will try to achieve so by demonstrating the value for the IEEE membership to Danish members. Currently, we are trying to be more active in academia and to be more involved/supportive in the students' activities, where the students are very dynamic and they may leave the Section due to graduation or job transitions. Beyond this, the IEEE Denmark Section is in competition with a very active Danish union of engineers. They are very active on the event side, and in addition, they can actually serve in union matters, offer discounts and other concrete membership benefits. It makes no sense to compete on this, and therefore, for some time, we have been trying to establish a collaboration with the union. This is still an ongoing activity. The most concrete offering that the IEEE has to Danish members is the access to the IEEE periodicals. It would be helpful, if the Region can help to make concrete membership benefits at a, if not national, then at least European level.

Egypt Section

Samir I. Shaheen

List the activities carried out to foster relations with Industry and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help your Section in your industry-related activities?

Egyptian Engineering Day "EED" in its 17th episode and Made In Egypt Competition in its 13th episode result in great achievements to get closer to industry through below stats:

- 230+ Volunteers
- 310+ projects
- 1453 Exhibitors / Projects
- 42 Universities and Engineering Institutes.
- Expected Visitors 15000 visitors from industry and students
- 70+ workshops and seminars conducted by professionals
- +220 Training hours conducted to visitors and participants
- +150 Professionals (Corporate representative - judges - mentors)
- 19 Incubated project
- 32 sponsored Project \{\}item 127 Job Offer

Upper Egypt in Action targeting south of Egypt professionals and students

- 2850 attendees
- 87 Projects
- 120+ volunteers

List the activities addressed to Students and/or Young Professionals and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your students and YP-related activities?

Students and Young Professionals Section

- Arranges a gathering to YP and student volunteers during YP Roadmap Meeting for 2019 plan
- Recruiting new volunteers through establishing new students branches and reached to 49 SBs all over Egypt
- Arranged Egypt's student branches gathering to exchange their experience and plans in Sept January 2019 and September 2019 during EED.

List the activities carried out to retain and recruit members and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your membership-related activities?

Attract and Support Future Members

- Encouraged sponsored conferences to give a discount of at least 50\$ for IEEE members and students.
- Empowered +400 volunteers of students and professional to join EED and MIE programs and raised the awareness about membership
- Conducted membership awareness in EED for around 4500 visitors
- Due to increase in the rate of exchange, the US\$ moved from 6 Pounds to 16.5 pounds. Affected membership especially students. Success with technology companies to subsidize some young members and students by contributing 30% of IEEE dues to maintain section member and vitality. (150+ student and YP members made use of this industry sponsorship.

List the activities intended to support chapters, affinity groups, and student branches and the results obtained. List the related initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your support to chapters, affinity groups, and student branches?

Arranges a gathering to YP and student volunteers during YP Roadmap Meeting for 2019 plan:

- Recruiting new volunteers through establishing new students branches and reached to 49 SBs all over Egypt
- Arranged Egypt's student branches gathering to exchange their experience and plans in Sept January 2019.
- Planning another Egypt's student branches gathering to exchange their experience and plans in October 2019.

Plan for 2019:

- To Renew the MOU with the Egyptian Academy of Science
- Preparing for MoU with the Egyptian Engineering Syndicate

The signing of MOU in 2018 with Nokia-Egypt, attracted more members to be among our professional network and join IEEE Egypt Section volunteer community.







Estonia Section

Peeter Ellervee

List the activities carried out to foster relations with Industry and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help your Section in your industry-related activities?

Distribution of information about different section events like DL visits help to keep the members from industry informed. It helps also them to feel they will benefit from being IEEE member. Contacts with the national industry associations are rather good. This year, the section's traditional August seminar focused mainly at the cooperation with a doctoral school but the relevance of good contacts with industry was one of the discussion topics.

There are two rather new industry oriented new joint chapters in the section. One of them - IE/PEL (Industrial Electronics / Power Electronics) - has been very active and has proved its vitality. The second one - IA/PE/RA (Industry Applications / Power & Energy / Robotics and Automation) - has been rather inactive but with the help of new chapter chair their is a hope to have them active too.

List the activities addressed to Students and/or Young Professionals and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your students and YP-related activities?

This year, the section's traditional August seminar was organized together an information technology doctoral school workshop with the aim to make IEEE more visible among young researchers. Considering the interest seen, the such a cooperation will be continued in coming years also with other doctoral schools.

The two student branches are rather active, although their activity levels vary from year to year. The main reason is the continuous change of members in the branches. At Tallinn University of Technology, Industrial Electronics Society student chapter was established in 2019.

To attract student members, the Section is supporting their participation at various events. The students are also welcome to participate at Section's events. Representatives of Student Branches are present at ExCom meetings. Representatives of the section will participate at 3rd IEEE Nordic SYP Congress in end of October.

List the activities carried out to retain and recruit members and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your membership-related activities?

To address potential members, we see two ways. First, to make IEEE more visible among students who are often working already during there studies. This will also improve contacts with industry. Another way was used at our traditional summer seminar that was this year organized together with an information technology summer school where the majority of the participants were non-members.

Members are regularly informed about upcoming section events. In summer 2019, the Estonia Section met its retention goal for the 2019 membership year.

List the activities intended to support chapters, affinity groups, and student branches and the results obtained. List the related initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your support to chapters, affinity groups, and student branches?

The section informs chapter chairs about upcoming section events. The chapters are supported logistically and financially when organizing their events. The same applies for affinity groups and student branches.

In addition to chapter chairs (and co-chairs), also representatives of student branches and affinity groups are present at ExCom meetings. Members of ExCom exchange information about events and other activities regularly.

One of the upcoming challenges is to attract new young professionals from industry. This will help to have more members not only in the capital but in all regions. Plus balancing the membership between academy and industry, or even even increasing the industry part as farther goal.

Finland Section

Toni Mattila

List the activities carried out to foster relations with Industry and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help your Section in your industry-related activities?

Today academic members of IEEE gain a lot from their IEEE membership but IEEE, as a whole, should be able to serve its industrial members better by creating higher value for them especially. The Finland Section has chosen two focus themes for the year 2019 and 'value for industry' is one of them. Firstly, we are closely engaged with the IEEE Action for Industry initiative and through our Section Industry Ambassadors. Secondly, we require a 'value for industry' plan from all activities (conferences, seminars etc.) that we provide support for. For conferences especially, we require a technical exhibition, invited keynote speakers from industry, or other means of concrete involvement of industrial members. Over the past two years the number of industrial contacts has increased substantially within the Finland Section.

List the activities addressed to Students and/or Young Professionals and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your students and YP-related activities?

In our efforts to increase the number of student and young professionals' members, we have revitalized our local activities in the section and managed to engage dozens of new young professionals, in particular, through the active engagement with them. As an example of the fruits of these efforts, our revitalized SYP team is co-organizing the IEEE Nordic SYP 2019 Congress together with the SYP Sweden team. In addition, we also encourage our technical chapters to direct their activities to attract also student members within their technical field. Over the past year, these activities have been particularly worthwhile.

List the activities carried out to retain and recruit members and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your membership-related activities?

Even though we have been actively looking for new ways to provide value to our membership base, meetings, seminars and conferences seem to be the most effective way to do that. Finland Section actively engages and supports events that are of high quality and in the field relevant to our current and future members. Promotion of IEEE membership and value of becoming a member works relatively well especially for regular members.

List the activities intended to support chapters, affinity groups, and student branches and the results obtained. List the related initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your support to chapters, affinity groups, and student branches?

We are actively seeking to engage in collaborative relations with other societies with similar focus. One example of such activity is the collaboration with the local branch of the Institute of Physics (IOP) with whom we have organized many joint seminars, the latest one of which will be organized in September 2019. We plan to continue our successful collaboration also in the future.

We are also supporting its Technical Chapters to collaborate with their counterparts in other Section in the Nordics. For instance, in 2017, Chapters of the IEEE/EPSS society merged together to form a Nordics-wide joint chapter and now they organize together a technical conference exhibition NordPac that is traveling from one destination to another within the Nordic states. The latest edition of the NordPac was organized in June, 2019 in Denmark. The IEEE/Educational Society followed the same model of establishing a pad-Nordic chapter in 2018.

Finland Section also seeks to engage new members by inviting them to events and to participate in volunteering activities. We support our less active technical chapters to initiate new activities and encourage the more active ones to expand their activities and make them visible beyond the current members in the hopes to engage new people and new members. We have been quite successful in engaging new members but this activity should be made continuous.

France Section

Frédérique Vallée

List the activities carried out to foster relations with Industry and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help your Section in your industry-related activities?

Our workshops oriented towards industry in order to give a better visibility of IEEE activities are going on with a rather good success. One new workshop dedicated to IOT is scheduled the 11th of October in Valence. We are still willing to nominate new SIAs (Section Industry Ambassador) in order to multiply our workshop initiatives and to foster Industry Relations.

List the activities addressed to Students and/or Young Professionals and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your students and YP-related activities?

We strongly encourage students and young academics to join IEEE. For example, some targeted emails have been sent in different French universities / graduates schools of engineering for explaining to students and young academics the interest and benefits of IEEE. This message is also delivered at IEEE conferences attended by the Section Officers.

We also encourage the creation of new student branches and award the best student branch every year, based on their activity. As usually, our students will participate in different IEEE organized events, the next planned one being the Xtreme programming contest.

List the activities carried out to retain and recruit members and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your membership-related activities?

Activities carried out:

- Engage with Regional Leadership and activities, e.g. attend annual regional meeting (IEEE R8 MD Workshop 2019, Lithuania);
- Conduct a Membership Development activity, e.g. membership recruitment or elevation;
- Promote IEEE activity in my area;
- Initiatives planned during the next 6 months:
 - Encourage members to renew;
 - Encourage Senior Members to hold executive IEEE volunteer positions

List the activities intended to support chapters, affinity groups, and student branches and the results obtained. List the related initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your support to chapters, affinity groups, and student branches?

We continue to:

- Engage with Regional Leadership and activities, e.g. attend annual regional meeting (IEEE R8 MD Workshop)
- Conduct a Membership Development activity, e.g. membership recruitment or elevation
- Encourage members to renew
- Use of the Member-Get-a-Member (MGM) program
- Promote IEEE activity in my area
- Encourage Senior Members to hold executive IEEE volunteer positions
- Participate in IEEE MD Webcast monthly events

We intend to collaborate more to RTSI with Italy, Switzerland, England and Croatia Section.

Germany Section

Ingo Hahn

List the activities carried out to foster relations with Industry and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help your Section in your industry-related activities?

Our IEEE Society chapters are organizing their regular chapter meetings together with industrial companies in Germany. Usually, the industrial host participates actively in the technical programs of these chapter meetings and often provides a factory or lab tour. Furthermore, in Germany we have the very comfortable situation that academia and industry are working very close on solving research challenges and participate actively in joint development projects. This leads to a vital exchange of ideas and further close connections between industry, academia and members of the IEEE Germany Section. The main work on industry relations between the IEEE Germany Section and Industry is performed within the chapters. However, in the case of some other planned events on the Section level, like IEEE Milestone presentations, the IEEE Germany Section is actively contacting industrial companies to request their support and active participation. IEEE R8 cannot help the IEEE Germany Section in our industry-related activities.

List the activities addressed to Students and/or Young Professionals and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your students and YP-related activities?

Within the IEEE Germany Section we have very active IEEE student branches and IEEE society chapters. These are the main actors for attracting future members. Also the colleagues in academia are the main sources for recruiting new IEEE members. Our IEEE Germany Section ExCom meets regularly twice a year. During these meetings all chairs of the chapters and student branches are invited to participate and to share their experience and knowledge. Especially, the students, young professionals and WIE volunteers present their ideas for future activities and are in most cases financially supported to realize their activities. In Germany we have the a very strong national association of electrical engineers (VDE) which is very active on a local level. At nearly every university, where technical sciences can be studied, VDE has active student groups. Getting closer to these VDE student groups could be an opportunity to attract future members for IEEE. One of the most important arguments to attract young members is the networking opportunity not only on a local and national level, but on an international level with IEEE.

List the activities carried out to retain and recruit members and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your membership-related activities?

Each of our IEEE Germany Section Society Chapters is responsible to retain its members and to recruit new members. A powerful instrument to gain new membership is to request non-IEEE members to participate in the regular Chapter meetings. There, the potential new members can get insight in the activities of the society chapters in a very comfortable way. Especially, when the chapter meetings are held at leading German industrial companies the potential for recruiting new members from academia and industry is quite high, because such events attract many interested people.

List the activities intended to support chapters, affinity groups, and student branches and the results obtained. List the related initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your support to chapters, affinity groups, and student branches?

To support the section vitality the most effective and sustainable tasks are the regular chapter meetings and the regular ExCom meetings of the IEEE Germany Section. During these meetings all participants get to know each other very well and, furthermore, can brainstorm about future activities. The ExCom also expects regular reports on each chapter's activities. The chapter chairs are invited to hold a presentation about their chapter's meetings and other activities. Reporting at the ExCom meetings is mandatory, if the chapters or student branches request for financial support of their future activities. To support and supervise these chapter activities we have an officer in the ExCom, who is responsible for the chapter coordination. At the moment we try to register the IEEE Germany Section as a legal entity according to German law. We started this process round about one year ago. To be active, the student branches and chapter need bank accounts, but to open and to manage these accounts is quite difficult, especially, when the officers change after elections. We are working together with the IEEE Headquarters to solve this issue pragmatically.

Ghana Section

George Eduful

List the activities carried out to foster relations with Industry and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help your Section in your industry-related activities?

We have engagements with Industry by having series of Tech Talks, Workshops, Seminars, Distinguished lectures and invited them to our conferences. IEEE day activities.

List the activities addressed to Students and/or Young Professionals and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your students and YP-related activities?

We have partnered with student engineering associations to get them involved in IEEE. We invited them to our Tech Talks, Workshops, Seminars, Distinguished lectures and invited them to our conferences.

List the activities carried out to retain and recruit members and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your membership-related activities?

We have Tech talks. Membership upgrades programs. Encourage them to join professional societies. Encourage them to participate in scientific conferences. etc.

List the activities intended to support chapters, affinity groups, and student branches and the results obtained. List the related initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your support to chapters, affinity groups, and student branches?

IEEE day activities Workshops Blockchain Initiatives Conferences Forums Tech Talks IEEE CRITAC hub : -Start ups There can supports through sponsorship.

Greece Section

Konstantina Nikita

List the activities carried out to foster relations with Industry and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help your Section in your industry-related activities?

Participation at the ECESCON 11 in Thessaloniki, Greece. An annual student conference which takes place in various cities of Greece, since 2007. The main part of the conference program includes student work presentations - undergraduate projects, thesis or even dissertations. Besides these presentations there were lectures of well-known scientists and roundtables on issues concerning the future of the engineers. Alongside the presentations there were workshops and competitions. Moreover, companies' stands were set up. There were well-qualified representatives who were providing information to interested parties about the right biography, the first impression you have to give to the prospective employer and generally the behavior throughout the interview. Also, the participants had the opportunity to be informed about the situation of the real world as well as the areas in which research is flourishing for those interested in a career of this kind.

List the activities addressed to Students and/or Young Professionals and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your students and YP-related activities?

Workshop on "Using Reference Management Software": Having active members in research, it is important to share updated knowledge on content related thematologies. For that reason, a different workshop was held, during which, the participants had the opportunity to familiarize themselves with all the stages of generating citations and bibliographies. From locating in an academic database, the first article that will be used in their project, until the creation of the final -correctly formatted-bibliography to the word processor program.

A warmly engaged workshop from the participants.

Future:

- 5th IEEE Hellenic Student and Young Professional Congress in Xanthi.
- The IEEE HSYP (Hellenic Student and Young Professional) Congress is the meeting of all the IEEE Student Branches of Greece and Cyprus and one of the most important initiatives of the IEEE Greece Section. During the Congress, which takes place in one of the cities of Greece or Cyprus, all the Student Branches present their activities. The participants meet each other, share innovative ideas, and gather experience and memories.
- Its 5th edition will take place in Xanthi, Greece in the IEEE Democritus University of Thrace Student Branch. The Organizing Committee has already started working -very cheerfully- in order to ensure an unforgettable experience for the participants

List the activities carried out to retain and recruit members and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your membership-related activities?

1st IEEE Greek SBs Meetup in Thessaloniki, Greece: A meetup bringing the student members closer together, to better meet with each other, and create collaborative relations. Do do such a thing, speeches, networking, and an interactive workshop on leadership skills and communication skills were held.

IEEE Day 2019, is an important day/event, especially for the Student members, who plan interesting and innovative activities to recruit new members to join IEEE.

List the activities intended to support chapters, affinity groups, and student branches and the results obtained. List the related initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your support to chapters, affinity groups, and student branches?

An action of elections on Chapters and Affinity groups is in progress, in order to bring new members in leadership positions and refresh the related activities of the Section.

Hungary Section

Levente Kovacs

List the activities carried out to foster relations with Industry and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help your Section in your industry-related activities?

Industry oriented technological seminars have been organized inside universities. We have increased industrial partner presence our local IEEE HS sponsored conferences by technical demos or plenary speakers. They started to sponsor given sessions of our conferences, mostly related to young (e.g. PhD) students. IEEE Hungary Section (HS) industry award was established in 2019. Screen reader support enabled.

List the activities addressed to Students and/or Young Professionals and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your students and YP-related activities?

Fortunately IEEE Hungary Section members do not need much membership advertisement as they are aware with the benefits of IEEE. However, young or new members need several activities. The Best Student Paper award turned to be a great success in 2017 (81 applications) and 2018 (58 applications) for three categories: BSc, MSc and PhD. We will do it in 2019 as well, involving first time industrial support as well. The number of IEEE members and student members increased, increasing the overall number of IEEE HS.

This was one of the reasons why we got the gold award for IEEE Outstanding Section Membership Retention Performance in 2018. We are still maintaining the reduced registration fees for students and YP at our IEEE HS conferences. We awarded talented students at the national computer engineering student competition (biannual Hungarian National Student Conference) in 2019 April by giving them free registration at our IEEE HS conferences, but we have supported the National Student Conference organization as well. IEEE CS Chapter, RAS Chapter and SMC Chapter organizes seminars and/or technical meetings, furthermore the members are encouraged to attend technical booths organized by mainly multinational companies. Our own IEEE HS conferences organized PhD sections involving PhD students from different universities. We have organized for students and pre-university (highschool) students STEM oriented presentations.

List the activities carried out to retain and recruit members and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your membership-related activities?

IEEE HS continuously increases in members in the last 8 years. Local operation procedures are updated or under update. Most of the HS chapters have been revitalized in 2018, chapter leaderships renewed together with section leadership. The IEEE HS WiE Affinity Group was formed at the IEEE day celebration in 2018, but it is still not registered (pending) under IEEE although we have several times reported. We continued to award the Rudolf Kalman professor title created in 2017 and we propose to announce in 2019 autumn the student competition as well. The MD officer sends out renewing e-mails for the IEEE HS members. Non-renewing members are asked to give feedback why not renewed their membership. We hope to initiate a collaboration agreement with IEEE Region 8 and Obuda University (the headquarter of IEEE Hungary Section) to intensify student involvement and increasment.

List the activities intended to support chapters, affinity groups, and student branches and the results obtained. List the related initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your support to chapters, affinity groups, and student branches?

Our most important problem is the IEEE HS WiE Affinity Group registraion. It was was formed at the IEEE day celebration in 2018, but it is still not registered (pending) under IEEE although we have several times reported. We should ask help IEEE R8 to solve this problem. In the meantime the young leadership of IEEE HS WiE AG organizes events.

We continued to award the Rudolf Kalman professor title created in 2017 and we propose to announce in 2019 autumn the student competition as well. The latter is important for all HS chapters as the students should select at least one chapter were to join (based on their expertise and project work at the university / diploma thesis).

Chapters are co-sponsors of our IEEE HS based conferences, where the IEEE SMC, CS and RAS have a great activity. Based on this the 2018 IEEE SMC Society Outstanding Chapter Award was received at the IEEE SMC banquet in Myazaki in 2018.



Iceland Section

Jacob Sigurdsson

List the activities carried out to foster relations with Industry and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help your Section in your industry-related activities?

Since the new officers joined last February, the chapter has not been active.

List the activities addressed to Students and/or Young Professionals and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your students and YP-related activities?

We have plans to increase the presence of the IEEE student chapter within the University Of Iceland (and other educational institutions in Iceland) by assisting the student branch in holding a number of tutorials and lectures.

List the activities carried out to retain and recruit members and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your membership-related activities?

We want to focus on the student branch and increase its membership number. We believe that this will, in the long term, also increase the membership of chapter.

List the activities intended to support chapters, affinity groups, and student branches and the results obtained. List the related initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your support to chapters, affinity groups, and student branches?

See Membership question.



Iran Section

Hadi Moradi

List the activities carried out to foster relations with Industry and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help your Section in your industry-related activities?

The current chair of our Industrial relation committee is a successful CEO of a large telecommunication company. Thus, we have got closer to industry and his feedback for our activities are very constructive toward more collaboration with the industry. The current activities toward increasing better industrial relation are:

- Setting up a team to come up with a protocol to create guidelines and whitepapers on how to develop Technology Readiness Level (TRL) and Market Readiness Level (MRL) analysis. The output of this team, which includes members from industry and academia, would be this guideline.
- Reverse Pitch: Members from different industries have explained their needs for research to our members in order to attract students and faculty members to work on industry level issues.

We have an MOU with an accelerator to give workshops and support our members toward become successful entrepreneurs.

List the activities addressed to Students and/or Young Professionals and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your students and YP-related activities?

We have done the following:

- Conducting talks by members of our industry and CEOs of successful companies to learn more about how to succeed in the market
- Several talks were conducted to improve the soft skills of the students and YPs.
- Two meetings are designed which are conducted annually. In each meeting, the students and YPs gather together and discuss their issues.
- We planned three competitions for the students and YPs:
 - Sustainable development infographic contest
 - IranmadC competition
 - Recycling and Energy Consumption Competition
- Expected outcomes of these competitions are:
 - The students and YPs would be better ready for the market
 - They would better understand the needed technologies for humanity.

- They better understand the importance of sustainable development.
- Also, we have our counselor and students' meetings in November. The expected outcome is to help student branches be more successful in their activities.

List the activities carried out to retain and recruit members and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your membership-related activities?

As you may know, due to huge devaluation of Rials against other currencies, we have over 50% membership drop this year. Last year, we started the Farsi copy of the IEEE membership card. The reason for giving this card was to help them use their membership to received discounts for traveling, dining, etc. Our plan for the next 6 months, especially for 2020, is to make student branches more active to approach the students and faculties in their schools to become member. We are developing guidelines on how to present IEEE and its benefits to make them aware of the importance of being a member. Furthermore, we are working with the conferences, that we sponsor, to give better discounts to our members so the students and faculties become more interested in IEEE membership. R8 can convince the headquarters to give us special discount for this year and next year so the members can continue staying member.

List the activities intended to support chapters, affinity groups, and student branches and the results obtained. List the related initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your support to chapters, affinity groups, and student branches?

All chapters, affinity groups, and student branches have allocated budget to support their activities. Each year, all the student branches are evaluated and based on their performance, a budget is allocated for their activities. The student branch budgets and the student meetings' budget are the biggest part of our budget annually.

We plan to further support the travel of the students and their counselors to our annual meeting. We expect to increase the number of attendees by better supporting their travel. This would eventually increase the interaction between members and improve their satisfaction. To encourage their activities, we have designed several awards. Our plan is to announce the award procedure earlier this year so the members would be more encouraged. The newly designed competitions are also a way to help the student branches to become more active.

A picture of the awards' recipients in 2019 is attached. We have started working with the Turkey section to increase our interaction at the student branch level. This would help the students learn more about each other and transfer what they have learned to each other.

We have an MOU with an accelerator to give workshops and support our members toward become successful entrepreneurs. Also, there would be a workshop on how to model student branches through business canvas.

Furthermore, we have two MOUs signed, one with the Photonic society of Iran and the other with the Engineering Education Society of Iran, to better interact with colleagues in other areas and disciplines.

R8 can help us with providing more interaction between these entities. The interaction between these entities, from different sections, can help to better transfer the experiences.



Iraq Section

Sabiha F. Jawad

List the activities carried out to foster relations with Industry and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help your Section in your industry-related activities?

We didnt have in the previous 6 month - any activities with industry.. We tried to manage activities with industry in the next 6 month. Region 8 can help us to send us any recommendations to help us to go a head in such activities. and infoem us about examples of other activities hold within other section in R8.

List the activities addressed to Students and/or Young Professionals and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your students and YP-related activities?

The section has 11 different students and Young Professional activities within the last 6 months in the following universities:

- Zakho University in North of IRAQ.
- Duhok Polytechnic University in North of IRAQ .
- Erbil Polytechnic University.
- Tishk University in North of IRAQ.
- Engineering Technical College in Najef.
- Islamic University in Najaf .
- Engineering College in Babylon University.
- Computer Department in Education College of Mustansyriah University.
- Computer Science department in University of Technology.
- North Technical University -in Mosul City.
- Computer and Information technology College in Kirkuk University.

The Section planning to hold another 4 different students activities within the next 6 months in:

- University of technology
- Islamic University
- Koya University
- Raparian University- North of IRAQ
- Duhok University
- Mustansyriah University
- Islamic university in Naja
- Engineering Technical college in Najaf

List the activities carried out to retain and recruit members and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your membership-related activities?

The Section always tried to invite the members within the activities (of the students / young professional) and discussed with them the importance of serving the academic and industrial areas within IRAQ, and also invite the surrounding friends to become a members in IEEE.

The section planning to do the same activities (related to retain and recruit members) through the holding of the (students / young Professional) in the next six months.

The Region can help us by giving us any recommendations. And send to us any examples for the activities hold in some Sections in R8.... This will help us to see the status of such activities in comparison with other R8- sections.

List the activities intended to support chapters, affinity groups, and student branches and the results obtained. List the related initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your support to chapters, affinity groups, and student branches?

The section (through its very unusual environments existing in IRAQ) tried to support the two chapters (CIS & ComSec) through enhancing the participation of their members within the different activities hold inside IRAQ. And the section chair, vice chair, secretary, and Treasure tried to explain to the chapters members and affinity group, the importance of participating and enhancing such activities within Iraq.

In the next 6 months, the section put into consideration at least 3 activities within this vitality .

Israel Section**Uri Shaked**

List the activities carried out to foster relations with Industry and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help your Section in your industry-related activities?

The section as cooperation agreements with the Israeli Engineers association and with their cooperation the section sponsored professional activities such as professional tours in Hi Tech companies. Cooperation with an Israeli organization for system engineering and technologies ILTAM.

List the activities addressed to Students and/or Young Professionals and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your students and YP-related activities?

The section is very supportive of the students and young professionals. the section as passed a in the annual meeting a consent regarding subsidizing the second year of registration for students and young professionals. The section also supports students meetings and conferences.

List the activities carried out to retain and recruit members and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your membership-related activities?

The above activities are inherently support the initiative to recruit more members specially the support for second year students in their registration fees and the activities together with the sister societies in Israel. We have also got the excellence commendation for recruiting new members in 2018.

List the activities intended to support chapters, affinity groups, and student branches and the results obtained. List the related initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your support to chapters, affinity groups, and student branches?

In the Israeli section we support all chapters as they need. The section supports professional activities by demand. Each chapter has a yearly budget for organizing activities such as meetings and conferences. In the last year the section supported an EMC, antenna, Ethics in AI and other activities. Any member from each chapter or affinity group can organize a professional activity and after a process that includes the authorization of the head of the chapter and budget justification by the section management the activity is supported.

Italy Section

Bernardo Tellini

List the activities carried out to foster relations with Industry and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help your Section in your industry-related activities?

The activities that work well in Italy Section to foster Industry Relations are:

- The Industry Relation Committee works to establish direct dialogue with industry firms, to facilitate engagement of industry firms in IEEE initiatives, to increase the number of industrial companies participating in the R8 Programs (Mentor and Internship) and Italy Sections Programs (forum, panels, workshops, job fairs, awards, Student Branch initiatives, special meetings).
- We have in Florence the fifth edition of IEEE RTSI (Research and Technology for Society and Industry, - 9-12 September, 2019), <http://rtsi2019.ieeesezioneitalia.it/index.html>. RTSI is the annual flag event of the IEEE Italy Section with several initiatives devoted to industries such as: The special event: Special Event with Industries-Leonardo 500 (<http://rtsi2019.ieeesezioneitalia.it/Leonardo%20500.pdf>). This year, the event was for the first time scheduled in plenary session and organized as a round table with the special contribution of R8 Action for Industry coordinator presenting R8 initiatives, a representative of IEEE Croatia Section affiliated to Croatian Transmission System Operator, as well as of a representative officer of Leonardo Company, the CEO of Italcertifier Company, the Head Operation & Maintenance Operation of SNAM Rete Gas, the Dispatching and Operation Director of Terna. A special moment to celebrate the 500th anniversary of the death of Leonardo da Vinci - "artist and engineer" - opened the event.

The Special Session Competence Center: The event was organized as a panel and was aimed at presenting the Competence Centers, conceived as part of the Industry 4.0 Plan, as realities that refer to some Italian universities with the aim of intensifying the relations between research and industry. Universities and companies are little used to interacting and the Competence Centers aim at encouraging this type of collaboration: selected on a national level, they involve excellent university centers and large private players, with the contribution of key stakeholders (research centers, startups etc.) and can rely on government funding. The panel received the contribution of three of Italian Competence Centers.

The Special meeting on innovative startups and entrepreneurs The Entrepreneurship Committee is promoting events in collaboration and developing agreement with startup incubators, accelerators, venture capital, collaborating with R8 and IEEE Entrepreneurship.

During Powertech 2019 (Milan 23-27 June 2019), a plenary panel has been organized on entrepreneurship opportunities and technological trends in the power and energy sector. "Bridging the Gap: Electric Market Trends and Promising Technologies to Bet on in the Next Future" (<https://entrepreneurship.ieee.org/entrepreneurship-powertech-2019/>) has been the focal point right after the opening ceremony, setting the stage for the entire conference. Panelists discussed first the role and the expectation of the general public from the energy sector in the coming decades as well as the support to industry operation, the daily life of citizens and their well-being, the smartness of cities, the society and the environment. The core of the presentations and discussions has been on the various technological aspects offered by the diversified sources of energy from the most traditional to the renewable ones.

During RTSI, the Committee has organized a special meeting on innovative startups and entrepreneurs with the support of IEEE Entrepreneurship: (http://rtsi2019.ieeesezioneitalia.it/RTSI2019%20Start_up.pdf) which is organized in two panels: The first panel focused on the hot technological areas for entrepreneurs. An introduction provided an overview of the technological areas, the future technological directions and application trends, the worldwide scientific and professional communities interested in these areas, and the support offered by a scientific and professional association like IEEE. Then more specific presentations addressed some technological areas in which efforts are expected to result in opportunity for economic growth; The second panel focused on entrepreneurship supports for success. Funding, organization, management, business strategies and planning, incubators, guidance, mentorship, and institutional supports will be discussed for sustainable and ethic entrepreneurship in the worldwide scenario.

Three panels with industries and academia in the main fields of interest of the forum were scheduled at RTSI: - Industry 4.0: digital products & processes (participants - representatives of TERNA, RSE, ENEL, FREE) - Smart Building and Grids Smart Mobility and Logistics (participants - representatives of Magneti Marelli, Magna Mechatronics, Pure Power Control, VarGroup, TT Tecnosistemi) - Boosting Renewables towards 100 % (participants - representatives of University of L'Aquila, ENEA-STMA, University of Ljubljana, Politecnico of Milan)

The 2019 Industrial Distinguished Lecturer Award (<https://italy.ieeer8.org/ieee-italy-section-awards-2019-winners>) Bruno Cova (CESI) - he will be invited to give lecture on: "Key role of power systems in decarbonizing human activities: how to ensure security and reliability" Antonio Manzalini (TIM) - he will be invited to give lecture on: "Future Internet: a bridge from Artificial Intelligence to Quantum Intelligence"

List the activities addressed to Students and/or Young Professionals and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your students and YP-related activities?

The number of Student Member (Student and Graduate Member) has an increasing trend. The Student Branches play a very important role to attract new Student Members. The Section promotes and supports their initiative as well as their interaction with the Young Professionals.

The Exemplary Student Branch Award 2019 (see <http://sites.ieee.org/italy/awards/>) was given to Politecnico di Torino SB, and the most improved SB award was given to University of Roma 1 SB. The Ceremony will be held in Florence in conjunction with the annual conference of the Section IEEE RTSI 2019 (9-12 September 2019) during the gala dinner and award ceremony. The 4th IEEE Italy Section meeting of Student Branches was scheduled during IEEE RTSI 2019 in

Florence (http://rtsi2019.ieeesezioneitalia.it/technical_program.html) with special contribution of the director of IBM Foundation, a representative officer of STMicroelectronics, a members of the History Committee of the Italy Section, as well as IEEE Italy Section Student Activities and Educational Committee Coordinator and the IEEE Humanitarians Activity & Professionals Activities Committee Coordinator;

The SB chairs received the financial support from the Section to participate in the meeting. Tutorials and plenary events are free, this was done with the aims of attracting Student participation at RTSI 2019. IEEE was advertised during the conference (at the reception desk and in a special corner dedicated to IEEE, gadgets and other support material of IEEE was distributed). In collaboration with the University of Padua and the technical co-sponsorship of five Italian Chapters, the IEEE Italy Section organized the Summer School of Information Engineering (AI and Machine Learning for ICT Applications) which was held in Bressanone from July 8th to the 12th, 2019. The technical program is available at <http://ssie.dei.unipd.it/technical-program-2019/>. The School was very successful with the participation of more than fifty registered Students and Non-IEEE members. In collaboration with ABB and sponsored by ABB, it was defined the ABB award 2019 "New Challenges for Energy and Industry", with a participation of 35 candidates for the Master Thesis Award (two Awards) and 46 candidates for the PhD Thesis Award (two Awards). The award ceremony will be held during the gala dinner of RTSI 2019 (<http://rtsi2019.ieeesezioneitalia.it/Award%20Ceremony>). This year, it was announced the first call of the Italian PES Scholarship Plus Initiative. Three awards are financially sponsored by Schneider Electric, Terna and IEEE Power and Energy Society for the IEEE PES Italy Scholarship Award 2019 (<http://rtsi2019.ieeesezioneitalia.it/Award%20Ceremony@%20RTSI%202019.pdf>)

A series of Tutorials was scheduled at RTSI 2019 and participation is free, this with the aim to attract student participation. This year, we will celebrate the IEEE Day in conjunction with the IEEE Switzerland Section. The event will take place on October 1, 2019 by the Como lake in Italy. There, we will have a joint meeting of the LM and History Groups from both the Sections as well as of the Students and YP from both the Section. The Volta milestone will be celebrated during the event and a Student and YP session with interactive discussion is aimed at creating the best conditions for a fruitful exchanges of ideas. To increase the number of students that maintain the IEEE membership after last graduation (usually Master or PhD) a special discount for YP membership should be discussed. Helping Students and YP to increase their networking is one of the main aims of the IEEE Italy Sections. Help Students and YP to enter in contact with industrial company is important. Support in such directions would be welcome.

List the activities carried out to retain and recruit members and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your membership-related activities?

IEEE Italy Section is operating to increase the networking among students and YP. The recruitment of Students and YP is strongly related to the presence of active Student Branches and YP AG. To this purpose, we are planning a series of activities through which to establish a distributed network in Italy of active Students and YP volunteers. In particular, the Section will strongly support them during this phase and is planning events with Students and YP protagonists together with industry. The number of Students and graduated Students is significant in the Italy Section (with about 1000 members) and we operates to increase it further.

We are in contacts with big Italian companies to try to involve them always more in our initiatives (the RTSI 2019 was a success in this sense) and to recruit members and possibly new industry ambassadors from their staff. We believe their presence is important to attract new members also from the medium and small companies as well as from startups, spin-off.

We take care that IEEE is advertised during our conferences and other events (at the reception desk or in special corners dedicated to IEEE, distributing gadgets and other support material of IEEE). To be noticed the important growth of membership in the Women in Engineering during these last three years.

List the activities intended to support chapters, affinity groups, and student branches and the results obtained. List the related initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your support to chapters, affinity groups, and student branches?

The Chapter and AG activity is well organized. They receive financial support by the Section for their technical activities, whose number is increasing every year. Currently we have 40 Chapters.

IEEE Italy Section WIE Affinity Group is still fast increasing its activity. This thanks also thanks to the financial support by the Section and to the cooperation with other Italian Association and Industrial firms having same purposes. The third WIE meeting will take place in Florence the next September 11 and it is organized in collaboration with AICA, AEIT and WWE with the Panel Session "The Commitment Chart: The Youth Perspective" and the Poster Session Geneva (Gender Equality in rEsearch and innoVAtion) (http://rtsi2019.ieeesezioneitalia.it/RTSI_WIE_Italy_event2019_v4.pdf)

YP Affinity Group promotes each year a YP Demo Competition during the RTSI forum and a special event together with the Student Branch. This year, these events will take place during RTSI 2019 on Tuesday 10, September (http://rtsi2019.ieeesezioneitalia.it/technical_program.html). These events are important because they put together Students and YP from different regions of Italy and establish important network among them. The Section aims at improving such networking among Student Branches and YP, with the support of the Chapters. This is a central activity by the Section during this period. This should help also to increase the number of Student and YP memberships.

The History activity committee is working on two new milestones: for the research contribution of Galileo Ferraris together with the Politecnico of Torino; for the research contribution of Giovanni Giorgi together with the University of Roma La Sapienza. The History group is also working on the Milestone proposal for the Gravity Wave Antenna in conjunction with USA.

The Section has a very rich Section Award Program (<https://italy.ieeer8.org/awards/>): The 2019 Honorary Award was given to Roberto Padovani "For pioneering innovations in mobile packet-switched Internet access, central to third- and fourth-generation cellular networks". The award will be officially announced during the award ceremony of RTSI 2019 in Florence, on September 11, 2019. A plaque will be given to the Roberto Padovani on February 6, 2020 in Pisa, during a special event organized at

University of Pisa. The 2019 Distinguished service awards are given to Silvano Donati and Vincenzo Piuri for their exceptional contributions and service for the benefit and advancement of the Section. Four awards are assigned this year to the best four chapters and two awards for the two Best Student Branches.

The 2018 Best PhD Thesis Award of Computer chapter and of Computational Intelligence chapter is assigned during RTSI2019 in Florence.

Italy Section continues to strengthen its relationship with Italian Technical Associations AEIT, and AICA, with which it was signed a MoU. Italy Section continues collaboration with other Sections, as shown by the technical co-sponsorship for the RTSI 2019 o UK&Ireland, Israel, France, Switzerland, and Croatia. UK&Ireland, and Israel are sister Sections of the Italy Section. Italy Section is currently improving the website in order to further and better inform the section members about the recent news of the Section, the Chapters, Section Committees, Student Branches, Young Professional, other activities, announcements. See Section website for all the information (<https://italy.ieeer8.org>).

Jordan Section

Gheith Abandah

List the activities carried out to foster relations with Industry and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help your Section in your industry-related activities?

We are trying to get closer to industry through the following techniques:

- Having more members in the section committee from industry; five members of this committee are now from industry
- Our young professionals hold several professional and technical activities that involve young professionals from industry.
- We have expanded our annual student branches congress to include young professionals last year. JSYPC 2019 will be held in October.
- Our biannual conference on applied electrical engineering and computing technologies targets participants from industry and focuses on academia/industry relationships and joint research. AEECT 2017 was held in October 2017. AEECT 2019 has merged with other two conferences JIEEEEC 2019 and ICIT 2019. The JIEEEEC is organized by Jordan Engineers Association. This has enable us to reach more industry members. The name of the merged conference is JEEIT 2019 and was held in April 9-11, 2019. JEEIT 2019 attracted 701 participants.
- We organize special workshops targeting engineers from industry such as Amman Metro Area Workshop. The third workshop of this series was held in April 2019 in conjunction with JEEIT 2019.

List the activities addressed to Students and/or Young Professionals and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your students and YP-related activities?

Jordan Section has witnessed large increases in its membership. The section now is a large section with more than 1,500 members. We attract and support future members through the following techniques:

- Our section, chapters, affinity groups, and student branches hold many activities every year that give value to members and generate great visibility to IEEE in Jordan. Such activities continuously attract new members.
- We encourage and support creating new student branches and student chapters; several new branches and chapters were created recently. Such new organizational units attract new members and hold additional activities.
- All affinity groups and chapters are conducting their elections in the coming few months. We hope that new blood helps in further advancing the section.

List the activities carried out to retain and recruit members and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your membership-related activities?

As mentioned above, Jordan Section has witnessed large increases in its membership. The section now is a large section with more than 1,500 members. We continue to improve the section's membership through the following:

- Conferences and workshops.
- Students and YP activities, events and congresses Jordan Section has received the IEEE Silver Medal for 2018 Outstanding Section Membership Recruitment Performance.

List the activities intended to support chapters, affinity groups, and student branches and the results obtained. List the related initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your support to chapters, affinity groups, and student branches?

We continue to foster section vitality and sustainability through the following techniques:

- Holding periodic elections for all organizational units including the section, the chapters, student branches and chapters, and affinity groups.
- Encouraging all units to hold periodic activities and meetings and to report these activities.
- Continue attracting new members and improve the retention rates.
- Hold general meetings and congresses such as JSYPC 2018 and the annual Section General Meeting. Last year's Section General Meeting was in May. In this meeting, we had our annual recognition ceremonies and a keynote.
- The section financially supports activities organized by affinity groups and students and supports their participation in regional and international professional meetings. We supported four participants in R8 SYP 2018.







Kenya Section

Charles Oduor Onyango

List the activities carried out to foster relations with Industry and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help your Section in your industry-related activities?

- Organized an Industry meeting for several target organizations
- Carried out outreach visit to industries in different regions of the country.
- Hosted Region 8 Industry committee meeting in Kenya
- Concluded MoUs with different Industry organizations
- Attending functions of other players and giving highlights and benefits of IEEE when given opportunity to give contributions.
- Using Region 8 Distinguished Lectures and bringing on board members of organizations dealing in activities related to the Lecture topics

Above activities increased the interest of different industry players and have proved that collaboration is an important element in increasing footprint of IEEE.

Region 8 can increase the number of Distinguished Lectures and also support for industry meetings/symposium.

List the activities addressed to Students and/or Young Professionals and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your students and YP-related activities?

- Our activities have involved students as volunteers in different events and giving them certificates for being active over a duration.
- Have Young Professionals lead outreach to Universities where there is potential to increase number of students and Student branches
- Have technical paper writing skills training for students and professionals
- Have more events in Universities where potential students are.

From above the number of students writing papers for conferences have increased with accepted papers increasing commensurately.

List the activities carried out to retain and recruit members and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your membership-related activities?

- Using new students orientation programmes to highlight benefits of IEEE
- Use of differentiated benefits during IEEE Distinguished Lectures. Lectures being free to attend but only members get the presented literature
- Use of member get member initiative.

A number of people joined during these orientations and distinguished lectures.

List the activities intended to support chapters, affinity groups, and student branches and the results obtained. List the related initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your support to chapters, affinity groups, and student branches?

- Have more outreach to different regions of the country since most events are currently centrally done.
- Collaborate with more IEEE societies for visibility and Distinguished Lectures
- Have more students orientation presentations and benefit of joining now by making next years payment but enjoying benefits for the rest of this year as bonus.

Kuwait Section

Mansour Jaragh

List the activities carried out to foster relations with Industry and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help your Section in your industry-related activities?

- As for the industry involvements, the IEEE Kuwait Section had held several fruitful meetings with the public authority of industry (PAI) and the Kuwait society of Engineers (KSE). The discussions were aiming to demonstrate the needs and challenges facing the young professionals and engineers and to bridge the gap between the new graduates and the industrial sector as well as to provide the link with the industry in Kuwait.
- Along with the discussions and recommendations of the 112th IEEE R8 meeting that was held in Malta to set as a priority to get closer to industry and organize events with industry and to increase engagement and collaboration for industry and entrepreneurship activities, the IEEE Kuwait section had successfully organized the 10th IEEE-GCC Conference & Exhibition (IEEE-GCC 2019) under the theme "Powering the 4th Industrial Revolution". <https://ieeekw.com/ieeekw-section-gcc.html>
- The conference was held under the Patronage of His Highness the Prime Minister of the State of Kuwait and it was attracted various industrial companies at the local, regional and global levels. The keynote and invited speakers were from the academic and industrial fields. The fruitful discussions led to important recommendations on how to bridge the gap between the industry and the applied science. IEEE GCC conference and Exhibition provides a forum for discussion between different entities such as professionals from industry, academia and research institutions. The conference presented an excellent opportunity for scientists, innovators and engineers to interact and share their experiences with their peers of electrical & electronics engineering background. It was spanned for four days and accompanied by several tutorials and workshops as well as an industrial exhibition, tutorial sessions that were held on the first day of the conference. The IEEE-GCC 2019 conference program had included keynotes and invited speakers, peer-reviewed technical program, short papers, posters and invited sessions and industrial presentations.
- There were also two other events conducted by IEEE Kuwait Section, the 2nd Student and Young Professional Congress and GCC WIE Women Forum.
- The region may support and recommend having some distinguished experts in the fields of interests to the Section for to enrich the industry-related activities and events.

List the activities addressed to Students and/or Young Professionals and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your students and YP-related activities?

- The Kuwait section have held many students-related events and activities during the year 2019 and many others planned for the rest of the year 2019 and the year 2020. The goal is to organize events aiming to promote the IEEE to the society. The list below summaries these activities.
- Prior to the conference activities, Kuwait section had also organized the 2nd Student and Young Professional Congress Theme "Technology Innovation driven by GCC Young Professionals". The student congress presented the IEEE opportunities, contests, robotics competitions, Workshops, Student branch sharing experience sessions, Young Professionals sessions and tutorials. The IEEE R8 YP participated in the GCC-SYP congress that was held in Kuwait, April 19-20, 2019, in conjunction with the 10th IEEE-GCC conference and exhibition. Mr. Mohammed Al-Dallal represented the IEEE R8 YP and gave a talk promoting the IEEE and the YP. <http://www.ieeegcc-sypcongress.com/>
- IEEE Kuwait section had also organized with the Kuwait Women in Engineering Affinity Group the GCC Women Forum under the theme "Women Entrepreneurs and Innovators in STEM" to promote women engineers and scientists and inspiring girls in the region to follow their academic interests to a career in engineering. The forum discussion panels debated the challenges and obstacles that faces the women the industrial field and discussed the personal successes of the distinguished keynote speakers. It provided the opportunity to share the experiences and discusses their obstacles in the industrial fields and network at a local and global levels. The IEEE R8 WIE were invited and represented at the forum by Ms. Hzar Oqlah.
- The formation of the new student branch of the Australian College of Kuwait.
- Kuwait Section had also provided the technical and finical supports for the GCC Robotics challenge. <http://gccroboticschallenge.com/>
- Knowledge-cafe meetings for networking and sharing experiences.
- Together with chapters and branches, IEEE Kuwait section supports the Open Days events for universities students' held at the beginning of each semester to promote IEEE and to conduct a membership recruitment for new comers and to encourage the old student members to renew their.

Upcoming events:

- The Kuwait section join together at the local level with the IEEE chapters, branches and affinity groups are preparing for the celebration of IEEE Day on October 1st, 2019 to collaborate on ideas toward the vision of advancing technology for the benefit of a better tomorrow.
- Together with USA Embassy in Kuwait, IEEE Kuwait section will arrange a talk on information security at several academic and financial institutions in Kuwait on October 31, 2019. The talk will be delivered by Guillermo Christensen, a partner in Ice Miller's Data Security and Privacy and White-Collar Defense Groups.
- The section encourages the chapters, and the student branches for the participation in the IEEE R8 Alpha Engineers contest.

List the activities carried out to retain and recruit members and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your membership-related activities?

- Kuwait Section Membership Development had been recognized for meeting both its recruitment and retention goals for the 2019 membership year.
- The section had organized social events to conduct a membership recruitment and to encourage members to renew their membership as well as reminding non-renewing members before the deactivation date via the registered email.
- Kuwait Section keep providing all the supports for Kuwait YP branch, ComSoc Kuwait chapter, other Affinity groups, Kuwait University student chapter, other private universities students branches.

List the activities intended to support chapters, affinity groups, and student branches and the results obtained. List the related initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your support to chapters, affinity groups, and student branches?

- As for the preparation to close the year 2019, the Kuwait section has completed and submitted the meetings and financials reports, and IEEE mandated documentations via vTools.
- Reporting the Section Officers, Affinity Groups, Chapters, and Student Branch Chairs via vTools.
- Updating the Section website with all activities and events. <https://ieee-kw.com/index.html>
- The Kuwait section is presented in Social Media (Facebook: @ieeekw, Instagram: @ieeekw, Twitter: @ieeekw)
- Promoting Affinity Groups, Chapters, and Student Branch Chairs to use of vTools.
- The section organized joint meetings and workshops for Chapters, Affinity Groups and Student Branches. The section will continue to conduct professional activities with student branches for the rest of the year 2019 and the coming year of 2020.
- The section had organized social events to conduct a membership recruitment and to encourage members to renew their membership as well as reminding non-renewing members before the deactivation date via the registered email.
- Kuwait Section Membership Development had been recognized for meeting both its recruitment and retention goals for the 2019 membership year.
- Conducting events to support the involvement with local and regional industry.
- The IEEE Kuwait section had successfully organized the 10th IEEE-GCC Conference & Exhibition (IEEE-GCC 2019) under the theme "Powering the 4th Industrial Revolution".
- Kuwait section had also organized the 2nd Student and Young Professional Congress Theme "Technology Innovation driven by GCC Young Professionals".
- IEEE Kuwait section had also organized with the Kuwait Women in Engineering Affinity Group the GCC Women Forum under the theme "Women Entrepreneurs and Innovators in STEM" to promote women engineers and scientists and inspiring girls in the region to follow their academic interests to a career in engineering.
- The Kuwait section bi-annual board/Officer elections will be held on December 2019.
- The Kuwait section preparing events with the volunteers to promote pre-university activities at the local and regional levels such Teacher In-Service Program (TISP) for high school teachers to share their technical expertise and demonstrate the application of engineering concepts to support the teaching and learning of science and engineering.
- Participating in employment network fairs to provide the opportunities for both the IEEE members and the industry.
- Conducted research technical writing workshops for graduate students' levels as well as preparing for conducting the upcoming events such as the celebration of the IEEE day on the October 1st and conducting professional development and educational activities such as the information security seminars at several academic and financial institutions in Kuwait on October 27-31, 2019 together with USA Embassy in Kuwait by Guillermo Christensen, a partner in Ice Miller's Data Security and Privacy and White-Collar Defense Groups.



2019 Outstanding Section Membership Recruitment and Retention Performance

Kuwait Section

Latvia Section

Nadezda Kunicina

List the activities carried out to foster relations with Industry and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help your Section in your industry-related activities?

- Latvia Section fostering Industrial Relations working with industry through industrial associations as well as through personal contacts of IEEE members in industry, pointing both local and international as well as industrial and academic nature of IEEE in Latvia.
- Professional workshops on hot industrial topics show advantages of IEEE even for SMEs. They are interested in common EU market for projects and jobs to try to establish new relations with industry with the help of IEEE student / graduate student and PhD students, who are working in industry.
- Promoting collaboration with the professional groups in the different industrial areas, including social, industry-related events and workshops in cooperation with other national industry organizations.

List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months:

- IEEE day
- Conferences
- MTTW'19 Workshop
- The open lectures will be organised.



List the activities addressed to Students and/or Young Professionals and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your students and YP-related activities?

- Co-sponsorship of annual events for IEEE students, like The 7th IEEE Workshop on Advances in Information, Electronic and Electrical Engineering AIEEE'2019 Liepaja, Latvia, November 15-16, 2019, organised in cooperation with Lithuania Section, November 13-14th, 2015, Riga, Latvia
 - Annual awards for the best thesis
 - Series of technical seminars for undergraduate students
- The Latvian section working in the continuous attraction paradigm, we are looking for undergraduate students to become of members and be aware about this possibility from very early stage of studies. The involvement of early stage young professionals is and most efficient form of attraction in IEEE Latvia section. In frame of collaboration contracts with secondary schools our team provides training in electrical engineering, energy saving and computer control applications.



- Different events are organized in University / School collaboration, with promotion of IEEE, if possible, when secondary school pupils. The training event is taking place at secondary schools to inform on the opportunities to study at the program, the professional tutorials for pupils was organized and the electrical engineering specialty and opportunities of the further working places for the program graduates will be over-viewed as well.
- Organization of local and participation in scientific Student Paper Contest

List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months:

- The number of industrial visits for IEEE members will be organised, on <https://www.getlini.lv> and [Latvenergo.lv](https://www.latvenergo.lv) objects

List the activities carried out to retain and recruit members and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your membership-related activities?

The activities carried out to retain and recruit members:

- Organized regular students visits to industrial and research institutions free of charge for IEEE and non-IEEE members.
- Organized annual international workshop on Advances in Information, Electronic and Electrical Engineering free of charge for IEEE members, IEEE student members.
- Students participation in SYP Congresses are supported by the Section, as well as participation in local and international contests, e.g. IEEEExtreme programming contest.
- Supporting MD Officer training and participation in IEEE Region 8 Membership Development Workshop by the Section to ensure more efficient section growth.

The initiatives planned during the next 6 months:

- IEEE Day event organization with Guest Lecturers, International Workshop on Microwave Theory and Techniques in Wireless Communications, Seminar on Blockchain technology. Participation in all IEEE Day event is free of charge to increase awareness and promote IEEE and its societies not only in our country, but also in other countries among scientific audience, students, young professionals.
- Distinguished lecture organization free of charge for IEEE members and non-members to increase awareness and promote IEEE and its societies.
- Technical lectures organization in largest technical university of country to increase visibility and interact students and young professionals.
- Analysis of Section's members participation in IEEE societies to find out a high number of members in the same society and to inform them about possibility to develop a new chapter, get support for development and growth, common event organization.

List the activities intended to support chapters, affinity groups, and student branches and the results obtained. List the related initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your support to chapters, affinity groups, and student branches?

List the activities intended to support chapter:



- Regular face-to-face ExCom meetings, planning Sections activities and special events, usually inviting students and guests
- Increasing efforts from chapters and societies to encourage students and young professionals
- Student competition programs, which provides IEEE student membership to awardees
- Co-sponsorship of scientific and popular events, like AIEEE Workshop, RTUCON, IEEE day, summer schools, with special IEEE prizes
- Direct mailing special events

Initiatives planned during the next 6 months:

- 2019 IEEE 60th International Scientific Conference on Power and Electrical Engineering of Riga Technical University (RTUCON) <http://www.conference.rtu.lv>
- Conference for IEEE Section of Information Technology and Management Science (ITMS'2019) <http://itms.rtu.lv>
- IEEE Latvia Section members will help to arrange proceedings, which will be published by IEEE Conference Publication Services (CPS) and then submitted for approval for publication in IEEE Computer Society online digital library IEEE-Xplore <http://ems2019.info>
- IEEE Latvia and Lithuania sections are jointly organised conference <http://aieee2019.ieee.lv>

Lebanon Section

Bachar Elhassan

List the activities carried out to foster relations with Industry and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help your Section in your industry-related activities?

IEEE Lebanon Section has had a close cooperation with the industry in Lebanon for many years. Many MoU have been signed and renewed with Alfa, Ericsson, Nokia, ZRE Lebanon, BDD and Arabnet. In June 2019, a new MoU was signed with FOO SAL, a Lebanese joint stock company. FOO has developed extensive experience in mobile application development as well as developing, processing, installing, marketing and selling information systems in the field of information technology. The IEEE cooperation with Lebanese industry has a positive effect on IEEE Lebanon section:

- Many Lebanese IEEE students have been able to find internships and have different trainings because of this cooperation.
- IEEE Lebanon section activities have been sponsored and supported by these companies.
- Lebanese IEEE students and members are always invited to participate to the events and competitions organized by these companies.

Contacts have been also initiated with Ogero (the main telecom operator in Lebanon) and National Instruments (NI). Discussions are at an advanced stage and potential MoUs could be signed with them in the next months.

The Region can play a very important role in fostering industry connections by helping local sections and chapters in establishing a network of connections with different international companies and entities within the Region itself. Local sections are usually unaware of potential partnership with international companies due to lack of information. The Region can therefore maintain and share a database of potential companies working closely with IEEE and looking for new links with different local sections and chapters.

List the activities addressed to Students and/or Young Professionals and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your students and YP-related activities?

Students and Young professional are in the center of the section's interest. Many events, workshops, and conferences are organized to tighten the relationship between the community of professional IEEE members and students and young professionals from the other. Among the different events organized, the following stand out: IEEE SYPLC'19 : The students and Young professional Lebanon Congress (SYPLC) became one of our annual main activities. This year SYPLC'19 took place on 8-9 March, 2019 at the Lebanese International University (LIU) under the Title: "Smart Generation for Smart Market". More than 300 students and YP members participated to this congress.

IEEE Lebanon GrandTech 2019: Another event that we organize each year. The IEEE GrandTech. The GrandTech 2019 took place on Saturday April 13, 2019 at Notre Dame University. More than 150 persons attended this event and seven distinguished speakers presented the latest technologies in AI and Cyber security.

IEEE LSSC'19: To encourage students and keep them in contact with IEEE Lebanon Section, the Lebanon Section Student Competition (LSSC) was added to the local Section's agenda with the intention of making it an annual competition. IEEE LSSC'19 took place On Saturday June 22, 2019 at The Faculty of Engineering of the Lebanese University. All IEEE Lebanon Section chapters were involved in this competition. Each local chapter was in charge of a track. A total of 50 projects competed for the prizes. More than 300 persons attended the competition. 25 Jury members from Lebanese universities and Lebanese industry evaluated the projects. The first 3 projects in each track got an award. A total of about 3000 USD in prize money were distributed for the winning projects. The overall feedback was overall positive. The coming event on the agenda will be the IEEE National day. Hundreds of students are expected to attend.

List the activities carried out to retain and recruit members and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your membership-related activities?

First, it is worth mentioning that IEEE Lebanon Section got this year the 2019 Recognition Retention Award for being an outstanding Section in membership retention performance. This demonstrates the commitment of the section to retain and recruit new IEEE members.

Retreat in September 2019: The first IEEE Lebanon Section retreat took place in 2015. During that day, many objectives were set and a list of events were introduced. Four years later, a second retreat on Saturday September 21, 2019 at Balamand University. The main aim of this day is to reevaluate the Section's performance for the last four year, identify the strength and weaknesses and prepare a work plan for the upcoming years with new objectives related to membership development, increase the community's engagement in IEEE events and increase the cooperation with the Region and international IEEE community in general.

In this regard, the Region can play an important role in membership-related activities by sharing state-of-the-art membership development strategies in other member of the Region and in other Regions in general that showed notable results in attracting new members or in maintaining a significant retention percentage.

General Assembly and Annual Dinner 2019: Another very important event that has been annually organized is the Section General Assembly that will take place in the first week of December 2019. All of Lebanon Section members are invited to attend this meeting where the executive committee presents an overview of its achievements for the current year and proposes a roadmap for the upcoming year. This is followed by discussions with the attendees and a dinner.

List the activities intended to support chapters, affinity groups, and student branches and the results obtained. List the related initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your support to chapters, affinity groups, and student branches?

IEEE Lebanon Section is always encouraging chapters, Affinity Groups and Student Branches to organize high level events and activities. To do so, Chapter are supported financially by 500 USD for each event of one day, and Student branches by 150 USD per day. The chairs of all chapter and representatives of affinity groups are always invited to the executive committee meetings and included in all exchanged emails. The executive committee has also invited all the Chapters along with the key representatives (advisor, chair, vice-chair) of all the student branches to the retreat in order to discuss ideas and strategies with the wider IEEE community. It is worth mentioning that each year 500 USD is distributed to the best chapter, best affinity group and best student branch. The Region can be of much help in this regards. Among others, contributions would be in promoting the Section's events, creating closer relation between chapters, affinity groups and students branches within the Region.





2019 Outstanding Section Membership Retention Performance

Lebanon Section

Lithuania Section

Dalius Navakauskas

List the activities carried out to foster relations with Industry and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help your Section in your industry-related activities?

IEEE Lithuania Section constantly intermediaries between local electronic, communication and IT industry and universities, assisting in the establishment of contacts, such as searching for employees, monitoring of study programs, counseling, organizing of internship. In continuation to foster Industry Relations the Section intends to:

- Organize together with the IEEE Belarus Section 20th workshop "Microwave Devices and Systems" that is in essence based on the participants from the industry.
- Continue to invite representatives of the industry (electronics, electrical engineering, communication and IT specialists) to participate in social activities that are organized by the Section;
- Continue to promote the participation of the industry in the exhibitions organized within the conferences and workshops, supported by the Section.

List the activities addressed to Students and/or Young Professionals and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your students and YP-related activities?

IEEE Lithuania Section ExCom includes chairpersons from student sections, YP and WIE affinity groups. Thus all activities in the Section are well announced, commonly organized and usually involve all levels of members and representatives from affinity groups. The Section strives to help and support all activities that students, YP and WIE members are organizing. Through "The



IEEE Grand Tech 2019

best volunteer of the year” reward program students, YP or WIE leaders regularly wins awards and their work is recognized. Lately carried events in the Section:

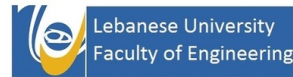
- 12th contest “The Best Master Thesis at Vilnius Gediminas Technical University” was held and 7 awards for Master Thesis authors and their supervisors were distributed during University Graduation Ceremony (photo A);
- Introduction to IEEE and its activities was done during this academic year opening Vilnius Gediminas Technical University ceremony.

The Section intends to:

- Support annual contest and award ceremony “The Best Doctoral Dissertation in Lithuania” during which Your Excellency President of the Republic of Lithuania will hand out all awards;
- Co-organize and co-sponsor the 7th IEEE Lithuania and Latvia Sections Workshop “Advances in Information, Electronic and Electrical Engineering” that primarily enrolls IEEE students and Young Professionals;
- Co-sponsor annual Conference for Lithuania Junior Researchers “Electronics and Electrical Engineering”;
- Continue to support YP representatives, leading educational work on behalf of IEEE among students and pupils;
- Continue the search of sponsors for financial support of the IEEE Student membership.



in collaboration with
Cordially invite you to attend



1st IEEE Lebanon Section Student Competition (IEEE LSSC'19)

Saturday June 22, 2019
Faculty of Engineering, Hadath Campus



Agenda

- 08:00 - 09:00** Registration
- 09:00 - 09:20** Opening Session
Dr. Bachar El Hassan, Chair of IEEE Lebanon Section
Dr. Rafic Younes, Dean of the Faculty of Engineering
- 09:20- 10:15** Invited speech
Bloc chain technology and its applications
Dr. Hilal Houssein Senior Financial Development Specialist
Islamic Development Bank, Jeddah, KSA
- 10:15 - 10:45** Coffee Break
- 10:45- 11:45** Projects Presentation
- 11:45- 13:30** Posters Session



List the activities carried out to retain and recruit members and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your membership-related activities?

IEEE Lithuania Section has met its retention goal for 2019 membership year and was awarded by Silver Award. During co-sponsored International conference "Electrical, Electronic and Information Sciences" (photo B) newly arranged booth "Call for IEEE student membership applications" attracted new members thus this initiative will be continued. The Section offered and afterwards hosted R8 volunteers training workshop that empowered different countries chapter chairs and membership development officers to communicate, get trained and interchange ideas about the best practices (photo C). About 17% of the Section members were identified as possible candidates to become Senior Members. Thus a workshop event to promote senior membership is scheduled for this autumn.

List the activities intended to support chapters, affinity groups, and student branches and the results obtained. List the related initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your support to chapters, affinity groups, and student branches?

IEEE Lithuania Section supports all its organizational units in all their initiatives and seeks for events sustainability and professionalism. In majority of cases the Section opts to co-sponsor these events financially, also initiates and grants awards. Lately carried events in the Section:

- The best volunteer of the year reward program: Dr. Darius Plonis became the best volunteer of year 2018 and during the Section ExCom dinner he have got engraved compass as a gift;
- Regular face-to-face ExCom meetings preparing for and organizing all major events.

The Section intends to:

- Host the International Conference MIKON 2020 and involve all its organizational units in the preparation and execution of the event;
- Continue "The best volunteer of the year" reward program;
- Continue to organize series of technical meetings presenting frontiers of research in recently defended Doctoral Dissertations;



Lebanon Section IEEE National Day 2019

- Keep inviting distinguished lecturers and co-operate on this matter with its neighbors: Latvia, Estonia, Belarus and Poland Sections.



VGTU Graduation Ceremony 2019



Malta Section

Conrad Attard

List the activities carried out to foster relations with Industry and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help your Section in your industry-related activities?

We supported various events including: Digital Health Ecosystem, Enterprise Resources Planning seminar including top local companies. We also represented actively in the eskills alliance allowing us to reach out to various companies from different backgrounds. We are organising an event with Computer Society Chapter inviting a distinguish guest. We plan to organise an ERP debate on topics that are related to practical issues when setting ERP at SMEs. Students are invited to attend and participate in the workshops.

List the activities addressed to Students and/or Young Professionals and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your students and YP-related activities?

- Activities/programs/initiatives work well in your Section to support Students and Young Professionals Technical Seminars and Field trips focusing the Student Members, exposing them to the Work environment and opportunities to work there in the future Encourage and funding them for next SYP Congress
- Changes required by IEEE/the Region/your Section to better support Students and Young Professionals Subsidies for conferences and broadcasting it so that student members are aware of it
- Major successes since the last meeting in terms of Students and Young professionals One of the winners of the Best Student Branch in the GCC Student Congress Tasks to support the Students and Young Professionals Conducting regular

meetings with them Informing them regarding the technical seminars and Field Trips

List the activities carried out to retain and recruit members and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your membership-related activities?

Informing the Members about the benefits of IEEE through regular emails and meetings. Making the students appreciate the benefits of IEEE so that more students are enrolled as they will be ones who will become members later. Trying to work closely with the industry and have members from Industry.

List the activities intended to support chapters, affinity groups, and student branches and the results obtained. List the related initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your support to chapters, affinity groups, and student branches?

Assigning Chapter chairs.

Mauritius Section

Neecharl Ramprosand

List the activities carried out to foster relations with Industry and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help your Section in your industry-related activities?

On 19 & 20 Sept 2019, we are running a two-days conference namely NextComp2019 with the University of Mauritius. In Oct and Nov 2019, Presentation of IEEE to ISPs Mauritius Telecom and Emtel in order to showcase the benefits of IEEE and its potential contribution to advancing the technological base of Mauritius.

List the activities addressed to Students and/or Young Professionals and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your students and YP-related activities?

On 31-May-19 Sponsored activity and prizes at Middlesex University Mauritius for national colleagues whereby 200 students participated. Presented IEEE to all young students.

In April, a students recruitment campaign was held at Middlesex University Mauritius.

We are currently planning a joint-activity with the University of Mauritius to encourage young students to opt for STEM subjects at the age of 15 years old as recent statistics show a decline in such disciplines.

List the activities carried out to retain and recruit members and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your membership-related activities?

Currently at 85 members, we are aiming to recruit more members by running two campaigns at ISPs Mauritius Telecom and Emtel by November 2019. The CTO and CIO are already agreeable to hold such campaigns.

List the activities intended to support chapters, affinity groups, and student branches and the results obtained. List the related initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your support to chapters, affinity groups, and student branches?

In March 2019, we ran a students recruitment campaign at Middlesex University Mauritius campus. Working with Dr. Seam, we are targeting for the creation of a student branch at that university by end of this year. We are also working towards the creation of a joint-chapter.

The current hurdles are: lack of involvement of members. I would like to understand what winning strategies other sections/region are deploying in order to get members involved.





Morocco Section

Mohammed El Mohajir

List the activities carried out to foster relations with Industry and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help your Section in your industry-related activities?

- Our initiative "Industry.Connect" aims to organize joint workshops with SMEs, to exchange latest development and collaboration for advancing technological projects. A 2019 Blockchain Summit was organized in April 2019 and gathered



IEEE Membership Workshop

IEEE is the world's largest technical professional organization dedicated to advancing technology for the benefit of humanity.

At this Workshop, the IEEE Mauritius Subsection will be highlighting the benefits of membership (currently at the low rate of \$13.50 for a half year).

They will also talk about the creation of an IEEE Middlesex Student Branch, and what it means to be involved in an IEEE Society such as the IEEE Robotics and Automation Society and IEEE Computer Society.



Date: Wednesday 27th March
Time: 12.30 - 13.30pm
Room : E101

experts in the field as well as startups and entrepreneurs. We are also providing resources (students and engineers) for companies who offer internships. Our IEEE Young professionals are very involved in running this connection and organize many events where they invite experts and managers from the Industry and private sector. - Within IEEE Day in October 2019, with the help of the experts, our student branches and chapters will offer offers training and continuing education for students and professionals who will then become IEEE members.

List the activities addressed to Students and/or Young Professionals and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your students and YP-related activities?

- We support our YP members for initiating and developing new projects, organize events and network with communities to enhance their visibility and reach more opportunities. Reduced IEEE rates for attending high quality events encourage many students and professionals to join IEEE. - Existing members are also very good ambassadors for attracting their peers as new members.

List the activities carried out to retain and recruit members and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your membership-related activities?

- We have organized technical and social events with students and thanks to that we have launched 2 new student branches and one student chapter. Region 8 can provide us with mentors and professionals who can train our students who are active volunteers on how to manage and organize their activities.

List the activities intended to support chapters, affinity groups, and student branches and the results obtained. List the related initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your support to chapters, affinity groups, and student branches?

We have launched this year what we have called our section vitality meeting. It happens two times a year, in July and December. We invite all our active volunteers to the meeting and we run workshops, brainstorming sessions and meetings to empower them and support them in developing and executing their action plan. Another vitality meeting will be organized in December 2019 to measure progress and plan for the next year.







Nigeria Section

Raphael Onoshakpor

List the activities carried out to foster relations with Industry and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help your Section in your industry-related activities?

A good deal of collaborations have been conducted with private and governmental agencies. During the recent IEEE PES Conference in Abuja Nigeria, there was a lot of networking which is expected to yield benefits in the near future.

List the activities addressed to Students and/or Young Professionals and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your students and YP-related activities?

At the Nigerian Section, the YP have been one of our strongest affinity groups who have participated and driven many of the Section activities such as the IEEE day and Section Webinars either as volunteers or as facilitators.

List the activities carried out to retain and recruit members and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your membership-related activities?

The Nigerian Section has done quite well in recruiting new members through direct and adopted meetings with potential members. The Nigeria Section has recently improved on the membership payment system by providing options. The new system is expected to increase the membership sign-up and renewal in the next six months to one year. Screen reader support enabled.

List the activities intended to support chapters, affinity groups, and student branches and the results obtained. List the related initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your support to chapters, affinity groups, and student branches?

The Nigeria Section has recently adopted some lessons learned and good practices from some sections in Region 1 and also in Region 8 to improve our reporting and rebate maximizing for all Agility groups not only for the associated benefits but also to ensure that we establish a good level of efficiency within the Section.

Norway Section

Runar Søråsen

List the activities carried out to foster relations with Industry and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help your Section in your industry-related activities?

- We have established a new GRSS (Geoscience and Remote Sensing Society) chapter comprising 35+ members. Plan is to establish a GRSS Norway Student Chapter before years end.
- We are arranging bi-monthly telcos with national professional association Tekna where further collaboration opportunities are discussed. This has already resulted in joint workshops being arranged.

List the activities addressed to Students and/or Young Professionals and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your students and YP-related activities?

Planned for 23 October 2019: Project Management Professional (PMP) workshop arranged by WIE and YP

List the activities carried out to retain and recruit members and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your membership-related activities?

- Our MD officer participated in the IEEE R8 MD workshop in Vilnius, Lithuania June 21-22, 2019. This was valuable venue for exchange of ideas and best practice.
- The section has arranged a campaign to encourage members to apply to become senior members, as senior members are more likely to continue their memberships. This is an ongoing activity.

List the activities intended to support chapters, affinity groups, and student branches and the results obtained. List the related initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your support to chapters, affinity groups, and student branches?

- The Section ExCom meetings (where the section board and the chairs of all chapters and affinity groups meet) are our main platform for supporting the chapters, affinity groups, and student branches. These meetings are typical telcos lasting 1-1.5 hours. Our goal is to arrange these meetings bi-monthly.
- Section vitality is to a large degree dependent on active chapters. Some chapters show decreasing activity. Need to reach out to them to both assess the motivation of the chapter chairs and to ask if the section can provide some support.
- The term of the IEEE Norway Section chair will finish at the end of this year, and elections will be called before years end.

Oman Section

Ahmed Al Maashari

List the activities carried out to foster relations with Industry and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help your Section in your industry-related activities?

The Section has developed "Benefit Package" document to be circulated and presented to the industry to encourage joining IEEE and participating in its activities. We currently have two IEEE members who are taking care of this task; namely, the honorary chair of the section and current Ambassador for Industry.

List the activities addressed to Students and/or Young Professionals and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your students and YP-related activities?

The section has organized (along with local student branches) the first SYP congress in Oman. The event was a success and encouraged students to show interest in IEEE. In addition, the Section has participated in the 2nd GCC SYP congress, held in Kuwait. The Section has fully sponsored a number of students to attend the event. This allowed the students to interact with other students in the region, learn from them, get inspired by them, and plan for further activities in their respective student branches. The section is also planning visits to universities and colleges to promote IEEE to students.

List the activities carried out to retain and recruit members and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your membership-related activities?

The section continues to technically sponsor conferences to promote IEEE to the community. In addition, the section will continue to organize seminars and workshops to attract members.

List the activities intended to support chapters, affinity groups, and student branches and the results obtained. List the related initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your support to chapters, affinity groups, and student branches?

The Section has financially sponsored a major activity for student branches in March. Similarly, the Section is closely working with Chapters in order to fulfill their mandate.

Poland Section**Mariusz Malinowski**

List the activities carried out to foster relations with Industry and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help your Section in your industry-related activities?

- IEEE Poland Section will be honorary sponsor of huge IT Future Expo 2019 ;
- IEEE Poland Section become a member of Polish Committee for Standardization (PKN) <https://www.pkn.pl/en> ;
- IEEE Thesis Contests with INTEL as a sponsor for students from Warsaw University of Technology, PWSZ (Elblag), Poznan University of Technology, Gdansk University of Technology.

List the activities addressed to Students and/or Young Professionals and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your students and YP-related activities?

- Co-organization of high quality scientific conferences and involvement of students and YPs (around 30 conferences);
- High quality scientific workshop and lectures organized by chapters for students and YPs;
- Creation of new Student Branches (number of Student Branches were doubled during last year);
- Organization of YP Meet-Ups;
- Region should support more financially student activity e.g. students congress, meetings, workshops etc. , because budget of IEEE Sections is very limited.

List the activities carried out to retain and recruit members and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your membership-related activities?

There is only one way to attract and support retain and recruit members, which are high quality technical&scientific meetings. Therefore, IEEE Poland Section has many activities, which includes:

- Co-organization annually around 30 high quality scientific conferences;
- High quality scientific workshop and lectures organized by chapters;
- Well supported DL Program by chapters;
- Region should help to prepare promotional materials dedicated to members from IEEE R8, which will presents real benefits for members outside of USA (specially from industry).

List the activities intended to support chapters, affinity groups, and student branches and the results obtained. List the related initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your support to chapters, affinity groups, and student branches?

IEEE Poland Section will continuously support technical activity of chapters, AF groups and SBs throughout organization of conferences, workshops, DL Program, YP Meet-Up etc. IEEE R8 should help Sections to obtain revenues from IEEE for paper downloads from IEEE Xplore, that help Sections financially and motivate to improve activity;

Portugal Section

José Pedro Silva

List the activities carried out to foster relations with Industry and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help your Section in your industry-related activities?

- New Industry MoU with Critical Manufacturing (a multi-national, Portuguese based, Software Development Company)
- Planned IEEEExtreme event occurring in a local industry (exact one to be defined until the end of September)

List the activities addressed to Students and/or Young Professionals and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your students and YP-related activities?

UP Student Branch, with Section Support, organized a IEEE WIE Leadership Summit (July 2019), with the presence of both IEEE President-Elect candidates and Region 8 Director (among others). During this event we had also a YP Meetup.

List the activities carried out to retain and recruit members and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your membership-related activities?

We organized a full-day of activities on Instituto Politécnico do Cávado e do Ave (IPCA) and Universidade do Algarve (UAAlg) both institutions without a student branch yet) to share information and knowledge regarding IEEE to Students and Professors. With scheduled presentations organized by the institutions, we had the opportunity to talk, face to face, with more than 100 students each. IPCA has already finished the process of creating the SB, and we expect UAAlg to follow soon.

We face a ever-more pressing issue regarding the value-added of full membership to Portugal Section members. We are facing a decrease in full members due to unperceived value from members from the benefits of being an IEEE member. Conference discounts, that was previously seen as one of the major benefits, is currently losing value.

List the activities intended to support chapters, affinity groups, and student branches and the results obtained. List the related initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your support to chapters, affinity groups, and student branches?

Organization of the 2nd edition of Chapter's Summit. With the aim of sharing information between Section and Chapters. During this summit, we had the following sessions:

- Section in Numbers (review of statistics regarding membership)
- How to create and foster Student Chapters (given by EMBS Chapter, currently the chapter with most student activities)
- Conferences (review of the conference submission process, including differences between TCS and FTCS)
- Elections (current status of elected officers and need for elections)
- Preparing an Activity (workshop on how to create a cross-chapter activity, to be organized during 2020)

Qatar Section

Somaya Al-maadeed

List the activities carried out to foster relations with Industry and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help your Section in your industry-related activities?

- 1) Activities/Programs/Initiative to Foster Industry Relations:
 - Need to have more International Industry Exposure;
 - Communication between the Industry Relation officers of various section can help in sharing experiences.
- 2) Changes required by IEEE to Improve Industry Relations:
 - More IEEE funding to encourage meetings with Industry People at initial stages
- 3) Major Successes in terms of Industry Relations:
 - So far only assigning Industry Relation Officer for the section
- 4) Steps to foster further Industry Relations:
 - Arranging Technical Workshops, Seminars for the Members from Industry (based on their feedback)

List the activities addressed to Students and/or Young Professionals and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your students and YP-related activities?

- Activities/programs/initiatives work well in your Section to support Students and Young Professionals
 - Technical Seminars and Field trips focusing the Student Members, exposing them to the Work environment and opportunities to work there in the future
 - Encourage and funding them for next SYP Congress
- Changes required by IEEE/the Region/your Section to better support Students and Young Professionals
 - Subsidies for conferences and broadcasting it so that students members are aware of it
- Major successes since the last meeting in terms of Students and Young professionals
 - One of the winners of the Best Student Branch in the GCC Student Congress
 - Tasks to support the Students and Young Professionals
 - Conducting regular meetings with them
 - Informing them regarding the technical seminars and Field Trips

List the activities carried out to retain and recruit members and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your membership-related activities?

Informing the Members about the benefits of IEEE through regular emails and meetings. Making the students appreciate the benefits of IEEE so that more students are enrolled as they will be ones who will become members later Trying to work closely with the industry and have members from Industry

List the activities intended to support chapters, affinity groups, and student branches and the results obtained. List the related initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your support to chapters, affinity groups, and student branches?

Assigning Chapter chairs.

Republic of Macedonia Section**Pero Latkoski**

List the activities carried out to foster relations with Industry and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help your Section in your industry-related activities?

Our section has a continuous problem with lower number of members coming from industry. This number is around 10% of the total members, leaving the other 90% with academia background. The main reason for this lays with our humble industry capacity, as well as because of the ever increasing brain-drain that is happening. In order to foster the industry relations, we just appointed an industry relation ambassador (Mr. Jordan Kirkovik) who has an industry involvement and who will hopefully find a practical means to get the Section closer to our industry. The very first effort will be to determine the actual needs of the colleagues from the industry, and to identify their benefits in joining and actively participating the IEEE society. Then, our plan is to organize meetings with the industry managers and higher level executives to present the IEEE benefits and to recruit more members and volunteers among them. Our extended plan includes signing MoU agreements with companies for internship programs, which will result in IEEE-aware young people within the industry.

List the activities addressed to Students and/or Young Professionals and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your students and YP-related activities?

The work of our MD officer started to give results, especially among the students and young professionals. Our Section has received a golden medal for reaching both our goals for recruitment and retention in 2019. Our MD officer gives a special attention to the student membership recruitment and retention by informing targeted students about the IEEE and by providing instructions and practical help for the students so they can easily pay the membership fee in our local currency. Also the participation in IEEEExtreme competition provides significant number of new members from computer society every year. The Young Professionals are very active in our Section, organizing several activities per year. The Section supports all these events.

List the activities carried out to retain and recruit members and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your membership-related activities?

We organize several social events per year such as the Annual meeting and the IEEE Day celebrations, inviting both IEEE members and non-members. These events significantly help to retain and recruit members. Our Facebook page is continuously updated with the forthcoming events (usually technical lectures organized by the chapters) and all interested colleagues are invited to join regardless they are members or not yet. Over 1000 people follow our posts about Section's activities. We have also appointed a Life Member Coordinator, an Education Activities officer and an Industry relation ambassador who will help in our goals to attract and support our future members. Every year we ask and receive a membership development kit from the IEEE central.

List the activities intended to support chapters, affinity groups, and student branches and the results obtained. List the related initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your support to chapters, affinity groups, and student branches?

The Section initiated a new joint chapter named as the IEEE Republic of Macedonia Section Education, Robotics and Automation, and Systems, Man, and Cybernetics Joint Societies Chapter. The effective date of this chapter formation is August 17, 2019 with geo-code CH08119. The recorded new chapter chair is Nevena Ackovska. For all other section's officers, this is the second year of service, so the things are going easily. Our past officers are helping as well, providing valuable experience in many aspects related to the Section Vitality. We are continuing with regular ExCom meetings where all the activities are planned. Section Facebook page is regularly updated with information about our efforts and activities. In order to achieve an increase in the visibility of our Section among the general public and in particular to foster the importance of our IEEE members' achievements, we have proposed an IEEE milestone named as "First control of a robot using brain signals", an event that has happened in 1988 at the Faculty of Electrical Engineering in Skopje (http://ieeemilestones.ethw.org/Milestones_Status_Report). We have also prepared suitable gifts for our members as a part of our Member Loyalty Program recognition, including IEEE jacket pin for every member.

Romania Section

Cristian Negrescu

List the activities carried out to foster relations with Industry and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help your Section in your industry-related activities?

- The events in which the Romania Section involves the industry are mainly the conferences. For instance, the following conference is organized by ICPE, a private technology company, i.e. 2019 Electrical Vehicles International Conference & Show. There are also other conferences in which the companies are partners.
- The Romania Section requires a minimum number of IEEE members from the organizing entity, including from industry.
- However, the largest number of IEEE members come from academia.

List the activities addressed to Students and/or Young Professionals and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your students and YP-related activities?

Two major student activities were held for students with the support from IEEE Romania Section:

- The 2nd Summer School of Antennas, Propagation, and RFID Applications was organized by the Romanian IEEE AP-S/RFID Jt Chapter, at University Politehnica of Timisoara on August 28 and 29, 2019.
- The "Tudor Tanasescu" national contest in theoretical electronics in was held between 28-30 March at University Politehnica of Bucharest.
- The student scientific workshops are organized every year in all technical universities. The Section is involved in this action within the main universities (from Bucharest, Iasi, Timisoara, and Cluj-Napoca), and supports this action by providing diplomas to the best paper.

A workshop was organized at University Politehnica of Timisoara titled "The Open Education and the Impact of Digitalization" (<https://www.openeducationweek.org>) addressed both to students and teachers. The Romania Section provides guidance to the local volunteers from Technical University "Gh. Asachi" of Iasi and to the Technical University of Cluj-Napoca for form Student Branches.

In 2019, 19 conferences have been organized in Romania under IEEE. We try to provide significant incentives for students. Also, the policy to retain the student members is member-to-member relationship.

For students there is always an issue of the money. There are many professional associations with free membership and attendance for students. The access to IEEEExplore is free via the universities. So, we face a problem in persuading the students to pay the membership fee. The Romania Section pays the membership for a few students every year. However, region 8 should open the discussions at the IEEE level asking to provide more support to students.

The YP group is organizing every year the IEEE Day.

List the activities carried out to retain and recruit members and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your membership-related activities?

- The IEEE Romania Section was awarded a gold medal for membership retention at the end of year 2018. The membership in Romania remained to a constant level. However, we are focusing especially on student retention;
- The IEEE Romania Section encourages and supports the members to apply for elevation to IEEE Senior Member;
- We are in progress of creating a new webpage in the hope that we can get more closer to the IEEE members and to the potential members;
- The Section's policy is to organize elections at the chapter levels so that more and more members are involved in the IEEE activities;
- Fidelity pins are given to all members, and certificates are presented to the active members.

List the activities intended to support chapters, affinity groups, and student branches and the results obtained. List the related initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your support to chapters, affinity groups, and student branches?

- We organize training meeting with the new volunteers. The Section has organized elections for several chapters in the last two years.
- The Section engages the Student Branches in educational and student-related activities. The students are actively involved in organizing various activities.
- Region 8 can help us with more ideas.

Russia Section

Sergey Bankov

List the activities carried out to foster relations with Industry and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help your Section in your industry-related activities?

Activities/programs/initiatives work well in Russia Section to foster Industry Relations:

- Cooperation with national professional societies: Popov's radio engineering and communication society, National academy of electrical science, National academy of cosmonautics, Russia URSI branch;
- regular meetings with representatives of Russian industry;
- IEEE Russia section technical support of several industry oriented conferences and seminars;
- Presentations of IEEE Russia section in industry oriented conferences;
- We are planning to continue regular meetings with Russian industry representatives, cooperation with national professional societies and other activity oriented to IEEE promotion among people from Russian industry.

List the activities addressed to Students and/or Young Professionals and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your students and YP-related activities?

IEEE Russia section technical and financial support of several all Russia and international student and YP conferences; Special reports and presentations for student and YP are included in programs of several conferences that are supported and organized by Section; Technical and financial support of Russia section participants at Nordic YP congress in 2019 October.

List the activities carried out to retain and recruit members and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your membership-related activities?

Organization of a new operational units (subsections, chapters etc.) in IEEE Russia section. Among them are: AP, MTT chapter on the base of South Federal University and Armenian CS chapter. Number of IEEE Russia section members continuously grows. As a result, Russia Section has received Certificate for "2018 Outstanding Section Membership Recruitment Performance".

List the activities intended to support chapters, affinity groups, and student branches and the results obtained. List the related initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your support to chapters, affinity groups, and student branches?

- elections in 2019 of Russia section officers;
- several tens of IEEE conferences technically and financially supported by Russia section;
- administrative chapters chair meeting in May 2019 and planned meeting in November 2019;
- planned joint meeting with Popov's radio engineering and communication society and National academy of electrical science.

Russia (North West) Section

Mikhail Shestopalov

List the activities carried out to foster relations with Industry and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help your Section in your industry-related activities?

Annual conference on strategic academia-industry partnership

List the activities addressed to Students and/or Young Professionals and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your students and YP-related activities?

Annual conference of young researchers in electrical and electronic engineering, about 400 participants

List the activities carried out to retain and recruit members and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your membership-related activities?

seminars about IEEE for new students at universities

List the activities intended to support chapters, affinity groups, and student branches and the results obtained. List the related initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your support to chapters, affinity groups, and student branches?

sponsoring conferences organized by chapters

Russia (Siberia) Section

Alexey S. Rodionov

List the activities carried out to foster relations with Industry and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help your Section in your industry-related activities?

Industrial applications that are closely connected with tasks of development North, Far East and Asia-Pacific regions are of the prime interest for the Russia Siberia Section. Special sessions and exhibitions devoted to industrial applications took place at the conferences supported by the Section, for example at the SIBIRCON 2019 sponsored by some IT companies and 15th International Asian School-Seminar "Optimization Problems of complex systems", in the program of last event the presentation of the Granch Ltd company was included. Some of new IEEE members recruited in the last year are IT specialists and biomedical engineers who work in the area of high-tech medicine.

List the activities addressed to Students and/or Young Professionals and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your students and YP-related activities?

- Annual Student Paper Contest and Conference on the Information Security (SIBINFO) at Tусur University, <http://chapters.comsoc.org>
- 20th International Conference of Young Specialists on Micro/Nanotechnologies and Electron Devices, <http://edm.conf.nstu.ru>
- Young Scientists School on Biomedical Engineering is included to program of the 2019 SIBIRCON, <https://sibircon.ieeesiberia.org>

Involving new student members is planned through agitation and presenting IEEE activities in Siberian universities that are not basic for the Section now, in the Novosibirsk Technical State University, for example.

List the activities carried out to retain and recruit members and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your membership-related activities?

Regular meetings with students in main universities are organized. Special reports and presentations are presented in all conferences that are supported and/or organized by Section. As a result, the Section has received Certificate for "2018 Outstanding Section Membership Recruitment Performance".

For better development and attraction of new members special programs are needed for supporting participation of young professionals and students in events in Europe: travelling expanses are too high for Siberians (about 600 EUR from Novosibirsk versus 50-80 from Paris for flight to Valencia).

Student Paper Contest are included in programs of conferences that are supported and/or organized by Section, for example, annual Student Paper Contest and Conference on the Information Security (SIBINFO), Tomsk.

List the activities intended to support chapters, affinity groups, and student branches and the results obtained. List the related initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your support to chapters, affinity groups, and student branches?

Organizing the following conferences:

- International Multi-Conference on Engineering, Computer and Information Sciences (Sibircon 2019) (21-22 Oct 2019 Academpark, Novosibirsk, Russia; 23-24 Oct 2019 Dom Uchyonykh - TUSUR, Tomsk, Russia; 25-27 Oct 2019 Ural Hi-Tech Park, Yekaterinburg, Russia);
- 15th International Asian School-Seminar "Optimization Problems of complex systems", 26-30 August 2019, Novosibirsk, Russia;
- 20th International Conference of Young Specialists on Micro/Nanotechnologies and Electron Devices (EDM), June 29 - July 3, 2019, Novosibirsk, Russia ;
- Siberian Conference on Control and Communications 2019 (Sbinfo-Sibcon 2019), April 18-20, 2019, Tomsk, Russia;
- SPM-2019-RCWDFM Joint International Conference, August 25-28, 2019, Ekaterinburg, Russia;
- The International Ural Conference on Electrical Power Engineering (UralCon 2019), Oktober 1-3, 2019, Chelyabinsk, Russia;

Support of scientific activity and involving of the Students, Masters and Postgraduates in the IEEE Members through the Weekly IEEE SibSUTIS Scientific Seminar on the 4G/5G & Next Generations of Information (IT), Communications (ICT) and Computer (CT) Technologies.

Support of professional activity of the IEEE Members through the Monthly IEEE Seminar on Radio Engineering organized by Siberian Federal University and Krasnoyarsk Joint IEEE Chapter.

Cooperation with Technopark of Novosibirsk Akademgorodok in organizing and carrying out seminars and scientific schools. Closer scientific and technological cooperation between Siberia section and Middle East (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan) scientific centers, in organizing joint Scientific conferences and schools in particular.



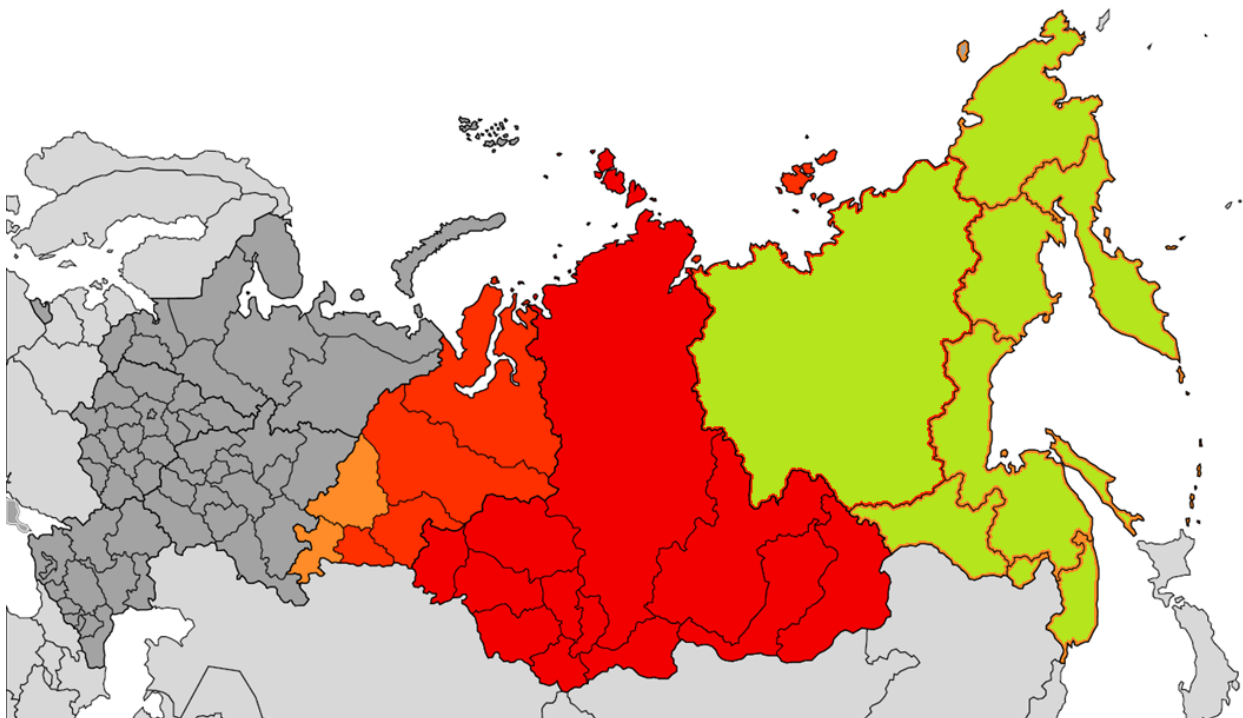
**2016 Outstanding Section Membership
Recruitment Performance
Russia (Siberia) Section**



**2017 Outstanding Section Membership
Recruitment and Retention Performance
Russia (Siberia) Section**



**2018 Outstanding Section Membership
Recruitment and Retention Performance**



Saudi Arabia (East) Section

Mohammad Al-Muhaini

List the activities carried out to foster relations with Industry and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help your Section in your industry-related activities?

The section collaborated in the 1st half of 2019 with multiple industrial partners that sponsored and nominated speakers for technical seminars and student activities. The section also was the technical sponsor and supporter for 5 conferences and local

events in the area which provided the necessary exposure to the local industry. There is also a plan for the coming 6 months to seek sponsorship for two technical dinners where two distinguished speakers will be invited to deliver talks. The section also prepared sponsorship packages for the industry to engage them to the section's activities.

We will keep working to improve the level of collaboration through the following actions,

- Inviting industry representatives to IEEE meetings;
- Visiting industrial organizations and promoting IEEE;
- Collaborating with industry in organizing technical seminars;
- Contacting industrial organizations to sponsor technical dinner meetings.

List the activities addressed to Students and/or Young Professionals and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your students and YP-related activities?

The section managed to establish two more student branches in the region and revive some branches that were not active before. The student branches were also supported financially and provided with a list of speakers that can be invited to deliver talks. There is a plan to organize a local SYP congress early 2020 that will be organized by students and YPs. The YP group also continued to organize the IEEE toastmaster local club with more than 20 members participated in the meetings.

List the activities carried out to retain and recruit members and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your membership-related activities?

The section is planning to organize bigger events and initiatives that will attract new members to the section. The membership development officer will also plan to visit universities and companies to promote for IEEE.

List the activities intended to support chapters, affinity groups, and student branches and the results obtained. List the related initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your support to chapters, affinity groups, and student branches?

The section is keeping to support all society chapters and student branches financially and technically. The section is regularly meeting with all local officers to plan with them all activities and provide the necessary help.

Saudi Arabia (West) Section

Mohamed A T Turki

List the activities carried out to foster relations with Industry and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help your Section in your industry-related activities?

We would appreciate if R8 can assist in IR activities.

List the activities addressed to Students and/or Young Professionals and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your students and YP-related activities?

The section has been active with regards to students activities by establishing new chapters and in keeping them Independent

List the activities carried out to retain and recruit members and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your membership-related activities?

The section is relatively active in organizing webinars which has attracted new members and the section received an award.

List the activities intended to support chapters, affinity groups, and student branches and the results obtained. List the related initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your support to chapters, affinity groups, and student branches?

Mainly keeping chapters independent and encourage them to conduct activities.

Serbia & Montenegro Section

Boris Dumnic

List the activities carried out to foster relations with Industry and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help your Section in your industry-related activities?

Attracting more interest from the Industry towards the activities of IEEE has been in the focus of the Section in the recent years. In order to encourage the partners from the Industry to assume more prominent role in the IEEE, their benefits need to be reconsidered and novel services need to be established and offered to Industry partner. The global IEEE community (including Regions and Sections) needs to utilise and promote concept of knowledge-based production offering accumulated knowledge and experiences to the Industry partners. Individuals within the Section, with the support of the Section itself, developed a numerous projects with the topic of Industry (particularly Industry 4.0) and digitisation financed by different frameworks. Section support to numerous national initiatives and conferences led to mutual benefits for everyone, with the final result being more involvement of the industry in the Section activities (including the increased membership).

One of the more significant example of collaboration was the Industry Exhibition during the Region 8 flagship conference EUROCON 2019, held in Novi Sad from 1st to 4th of July. This was the first time that the exhibition was held together with EUROCON and it was supported by Continental Automotive doo Novi Sad, Energotehnika Južna Baka, Schneider Electric DMS NS, Mecafor Products DOO, ABB, IGB Automotive Comp, Typhoon HIL, Precise Casting Plant - LPO DOO Ada, Rodhe & Schwartz, Teledyne LeCroy, Via-Digital and others. All of these companies recognised the importance of the collaboration between the industry and the academia, while they recognised EUROCON 2019 as the world leading platform for knowledge transfer. Furthermore, this event offered the industry partners an access to the most important resource - engineering professionals and the best engineering students. During the event, an industry panel session, which was held in parallel with other sessions, offered other benefits such as recognition, new products and services presentation, attracting new employees.

List the activities addressed to Students and/or Young Professionals and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your students and YP-related activities?

Different activities and events aimed at promoting IEEE membership benefits are constantly organising in the Section. To better attract and support future members, new services should be established offering an additional value to the current and future IEEE members.

The Section offered full support to all Student Branch and YP affinity group activities, and we are very proud at the achievements of the SBs and YP AG within the Section. The most prominent event organised by the SB Novi Sad was the CEuSYP congress that was organised together with EUROCON 2019. Events such as these are very important in order to promote the activities of the Section and the organisational units, as evident from the increased interest for SB and YP membership in Serbia after the congress. One thing that could be improved in order to help facilitate more of student and young professionals activities is access to (and the knowledge of) the funding opportunities for similar activities. The Section will continue to support SB and YP activities with all necessary logistic and financial support. The Section (and IEEE in general) should recognise and make use of the potential in student and young professional members, helping them transition into future Industry leaders, while simultaneously facilitating their interest for IEEE activities.

In addition, the Section recognise relative inactivity of its student and young professional members in different IEEE sponsored competitions and initiatives. Therefore, the Section will look to influence and support the leaders of SBs and YP AG in order to motivate their members to take more active participation.

List the activities carried out to retain and recruit members and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your membership-related activities?

The Section has recognised that the recruitment of the membership is one of the most important condition for the section vitality. In that regard, the Section officers maintain extraordinary efforts in attracting new members and offering interesting new activities for all interested parties. The process of group membership renewal is again planned for the December of 2019, while the promotional activities will be held in the months of October and November. Additionally, during EUROCON 2019 there was a IEEE Serbia and Montenegro Section boot, where the Section and the benefits of the IEEE membership was promoted. This has led to the increased interest for the IEEE membership at the University of Novi Sad, where students of the University had full access to the conference venue and the Industry exhibition especially.

List the activities intended to support chapters, affinity groups, and student branches and the results obtained. List the related initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your support to chapters, affinity groups, and student branches?

In order to drive the vitality and sustainability of the IEEE Serbia and Montenegro Section special attention is given to definition and adoption of the plan and budget for the yearly Section activities. The Section has a formal process for these activities.

Section officers maintain good relationship with organising committees for different national and international conferences, organising IEEE section presentations and various events at the respective conference venues.

IEEE S&M Section web page (<http://www.ieee.uns.ac.rs/?r>) is updating regularly and contains all the necessary information required by the perspective members or other visitors. The information regarding every event sponsored or supported by IEEE S&M Section is available online at the Section website.

The most important events organised by the Section members are the R8 flagship conference EUROCON 2019 and CEuSYP 2019 congress. Both events had the financial and administrative support from the Section officers. We are very proud at the organisational committees of these events, since there was a lot of positive comments from the participants from all over the

world. These two events have been held in parallel, offering the possibility for the participants of both events to have full access to all the activities. In addition, we had a lot of different activities from our chapters and affinity groups that were held between the two section congresses.







Slovenia Section

Andrej Trost

List the activities carried out to foster relations with Industry and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help your Section in your industry-related activities?

IEEE members from academia maintain close cooperation with industry by cooperation on applied industrial projects, organizing technical events and educational excursions. Part of the Faculty of Electrical Engineering's premises are organized as a small technology park, where startups and established industry partners rent space for their companies. We invited researchers from the industry to our annual conference and expect to establish new connections with the local industry. In the same time we will promote IEEE activities to the research groups from the industry.

List the activities addressed to Students and/or Young Professionals and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your students and YP-related activities?

Students and young professionals are actively involved in scientific as well as industry related projects. They can present and publish their work in our yearly ERK conference as well as join IEEE student paper competitions. There are also a lot of (typically over 20 events/year) other activities available to students in a form of hackatons, competitions sponsored from our industry partners, etc. This kind of activities can positively attract the young professionals to the electrotechnical field and the IEEE.

We plan to promote IEEE among the students in the IEEE day events in University of Ljubljana and University of Maribor, where we have active student branches. We plan to investigate which communication channels are most usable to invite students and young professionals to technical events of our local chapters and expect that more young IEEE members will be attending these events.

List the activities carried out to retain and recruit members and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your membership-related activities?

We are especially proud of our loyal members which has also been appreciated by the IEEE by the "2018 Outstanding Section Membership Recruitment and Retention Performance" award. This indicates high membership retainment rate and thus also value in the organization for our members. The section will continue to support the membership meetings and technical events that attract many IEEE members. Screen reader support enabled.

List the activities intended to support chapters, affinity groups, and student branches and the results obtained. List the related initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your support to chapters, affinity groups, and student branches?

The IEEE Slovenia section and its members are actively cooperating with other professional and technical societies and institutions. We are closely connected to the Electrotechnical Association of Slovenia where we share common technical field interests. This year we established a new joint chapter Industrial Electronics and Industrial Applications. We are currently in the process of establishing new local CIS and GRSS chapter to support our members from the corresponding technical fields.

South Africa Section

David Oyedokun

List the activities carried out to foster relations with Industry and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help your Section in your industry-related activities?

Industrial visits and Technical talks within the section have been very useful in increasing relations with industry. Plans are being put in place to visit specific industries in South Africa to better understand how to define and improve relations.

List the activities addressed to Students and/or Young Professionals and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your students and YP-related activities?

Our members and potential members of the IEEE in South Africa regularly engage in humanitarian activities, such as EPICS-in-IEEE and WiE initiatives. A number of Student branches are very active in addressing topics issues in the society. One of such was "Breaking the Stereotype" which was presented in August 2019 during Women's month in South Africa. These are some of the local value-add initiatives in South Africa. All these initiatives will continue during the next 6 months.

List the activities carried out to retain and recruit members and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your membership-related activities?

A large push towards increasing the number of chapters/branches within the section to increase value for members. The specialized nature of chapters/branches allowed for focused value-add on an individual basis and increase the number of local conference hosts. On that note conferences have also been increasing and student branches are becoming more active with workshops and several events on IEEE Day pushed by the IEEE student branches. This course seems to work well for our members and thus we will continue to develop these types of activities.

List the activities intended to support chapters, affinity groups, and student branches and the results obtained. List the related initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your support to chapters, affinity groups, and student branches?

Visit to local chapters, setup more SIGHT groups, arrange professional talks and visits, EPICS-in-IEEE Projects and webinars.

Spain Section

Jesus Fraile-Ardanuy

List the activities carried out to foster relations with Industry and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help your Section in your industry-related activities?

List of activities carried out:

- Meeting with Ericsson (telecommunication company) to collaborate in internships for IEEE Student members.
- Participation in Startup olè (which is one of the biggest entrepreneurial events in Europe) with some IEEE YP members, presenting two Startups
- Participation in ActuaUPM (an entrepreneurial program from Universidad Politecnica de Madrid), acting as mentor.

List of the future initiatives:

- Promoting entrepreneurial events in IEEE Spain Section, focusing in the participation of YP and Student members.
- Promoting Students' activities to companies in different sectors (energy, transportation, telecommunications, etc.). This initiative will help to understand that our student members have outstanding working capabilities in order to be hired by these companies.

List the activities addressed to Students and/or Young Professionals and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your students and YP-related activities?

List of activities carried out:

- Promoting the organization of SWYP 2019 (Student, Women and YP National Congress, 2019) in Alicante (Spain)
- Promoting attendance to Jornadas Nacionales de Robotica

List of the future initiatives:

- Promoting attendance to international conferences organized by IEEE in our Section.
- Promoting visits to unique engineering facilities such as power plants, communication centers, etc, bringing practical engineering reality closer to our students

List the activities carried out to retain and recruit members and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your membership-related activities?

List of activities carried out:

- All TCS Conferences approved by our Section must have an information desk to promote the recruitment of new members.
- Senior Member promotion, assisting to our members candidates with the application form and putting them in contact with the references

List of the future initiatives:

- Keep our Senior Member promotion initiative
- Collaborate with our Action for Industry coordinator, to promote our student members in Industry, to add value to their membership

List the activities intended to support chapters, affinity groups, and student branches and the results obtained. List the related initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your support to chapters, affinity groups, and student branches?

List of activities carried out:

- Promoting their activities through economic (and advertising) aids (3500 for chapters, 1000 for affinity groups and 4000 for students activities)
- Promote common activities among chapters, student branches and affinity groups. Most of the organized activities are done at group level. One way to improve the relationship between each group within the Section and promote collaboration between these groups can be through organizing common events.

Sweden Section

Samarth Deo

List the activities carried out to foster relations with Industry and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help your Section in your industry-related activities?

As earlier informed, we have appointed a person dedicated for "Action for Industry" initiative. His task is mainly to get in touch with industries and also host events in collaboration.

Also we have a close collaboration with all the chapters within the section, who are encouraged to conduct events with industry. During May, we conducted a workshop for the students, organised by the YP's on CV writing and interviews. A workshop on Information Optics was conducted in the first week of July, with three panellists including some from the industry. In October, the third Nordic SYP is being jointly organised by Finland and Sweden. This has speakers and sponsors both from industry. Such collaborations bring us closer to the industry.

List the activities addressed to Students and/or Young Professionals and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your students and YP-related activities?

- Revamp social media presence: We increased our social media presence and became more accessible to our members. We gained followers on both twitter and instagram increasing our reach and making it easier to promote events. We have the foundations in place to build future events.
- Fika with students: Go around different colleges and universities and describe IEEE, YP and the advantages of joining IEEE. The hope is to increase YP Sweden's visibility in a market in Sweden that is already saturated with organisations looking for young professionals to join their ranks.
- YP of the month: followers on our social media nominate themselves or others for YP of the month. Winners get a certificate. During downtime between events, in the planning phases of the events, there is not a lot to publish on social media. YP of the month gives us something to publish once a month, increases our interaction with our members, and most importantly highlights the great things our members do, and hopefully inspires other members.
- IEEE Nordic SYP 2019: Hosting the IEEE Nordic student and young professionals congress in October.

List the activities carried out to retain and recruit members and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your membership-related activities?

We have a dedicated Membership Development Officer in the section. With his help, we conducted the following activities: Senior Membership Drive- we were able to get three members to apply for senior membership. The Section helped with references and application when needed.

Reminder to members with arrears to renew their membership before they lose benefits- like email.

Also mentioning in the newsletter about the membership benefits. All this has kept membership in the section at the same level for the past few years.

List the activities intended to support chapters, affinity groups, and student branches and the results obtained. List the related initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your support to chapters, affinity groups, and student branches?

- Continuous dialogue with chapter chairs through email.
- Annual Chapter Chairs workshop during autumn.
- Having the treasurer from the chapter work with the section treasurer for budget and activity planning.
- Also continuously asking the chapters to update the webpage, centrally on the ieeese portal.

Switzerland Section

Maria-Alexandra Paun

List the activities carried out to foster relations with Industry and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help your Section in your industry-related activities?

Our Chapters, Affinity Groups and Student Branches have organized many events in which the industry was involved. Below are such examples of events, which highlight the Industry Relations.

Our Annual General Assembly 2019 of IEEE Switzerland Section took place on 26th of March 2019. The event was hosted by the Switzerland Innovation Park Zurich (Dbendorf). There was also a visit and guided tour offered to Flieger- & Flabmuseum (AIR FORCE CENTER, Dbendorf).

The event will be hosted by the Switzerland Innovation Park Zurich (Wangenstrasse 68, 8600 Dbendorf). There will also be a visit (transportation is provided) and guided tour offered to Flieger- & Flabmuseum (AIR FORCE CENTER, berlandstrasse 271, 8600 Dbendorf).

At Stammtisch meeting, Stammtisch@EPFL on Monday May 27, 2019 between 5:30pm-6:30pm we stayed in the sustainable development theme with the following topic "The Smart Grid for Water". A short presentation of Droople was given by Peter Racz, Co-Founder, how is in charge of Business Development for Droople <https://www.droople.io/>. This was followed by an open discussion on the topic Sushi Zen.

SSCS Chapter: "We are establishing a network of the Swiss IC Design/Test/Consultant Companies, with a person of contact per company. Local lecturers were found for seminar early 2019, we keep in touch with them so they feel involved."

On 1st of October, IEEE Day will take place at the Fondazione Volta in Como, joint event between Switzerland and Italy Sections, with a theme on batteries. Industry representatives will also be present.

On 3rd of October we organize an event which will take place at Swissquote (number 1 Swiss online bank).

List the activities addressed to Students and/or Young Professionals and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your students and YP-related activities?

Our Student Branch in EPFL had a strong activity, with events involving conferences, technical talks, informal barbecues. This proves beneficial to attract new members. To continue our tradition, IEEEExtreme programming competition will be again organized at EPFL in October.

Young Professional Chair is also involved in events such as the IEEE Day 2019, Swissquote visit, etc.

SSCS: "We provide them with outstanding lecturers in the first place. While we are setting-up the industry network it will be beneficial to them in the long run, but such initiative will take time."

List the activities carried out to retain and recruit members and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your membership-related activities?

We organize many events and we have a booth at international conferences (for example I was present with a large booth at IEEE PRIME/SMACD 2019 conferences which took place in July at EPFL) and other events taking place in Switzerland. We discuss with people and present them IEEE membership.

SSCS, Mathieu Coustans (Chapter Secretary): "Some personal feedback I took even from academics (FHNW, CSEM, TEConnectivity, MPS...) is that base membership and Society membership is seen as expensive. A lot of open source peer reviewed information is available on the web. The membership value is mostly seen for people that need international, for reduction at conference... or a good feeling for foreigner.

List the activities intended to support chapters, affinity groups, and student branches and the results obtained. List the related initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your support to chapters, affinity groups, and student branches?

- The Section updates the section website regularly with information (events description, etc.) and sends invitations through eNotice to its members to invite them to different events that are being organized in Switzerland. Chapter and Affinity Groups also use eNotice to send invitations to events to their members.
- We organize frequent physical meetings in the IEEE Switzerland Section ExCom (at least five per year including the Annual General Assembly) and establish constant dialogue through e-mails and phone calls when necessary.
- We organize, at Section level, technical and professional development events, such as workshops, seminars and technical talks.
- The Section checks the meeting reporting on vTools for all local units, Chapters and Affinity Groups. The Section via its Secretary, Mr. Ben Bowler, sends friendly reminders about the dates of reporting in order to get the rebate bonus.
- We ensure to report in vTools all Section Officers, Affinity Group Chairs, Chapter Chairs, and Student Branch Chairs.
- We check for the inactive chapters and send them messages about their status.
- We also strive and encourage the formation of new chapters and invite the people who want to form a new Chapter to our ExCom meetings to present themselves and their vision for the new chapter.
- We have a solid presence on social media (i.e. LinkedIn and IEEE Collabratec) where we also have a Switzerland section group and advertise our events.
- At the events we organize, we ask if more people would like to volunteer with the Section, a Chapter, Affinity Group of Student Branch.

Some chapters have emphasized the need to have some funding from the societies themselves to attend and organize events, and not to be referred always to the Section for funding.

Tunisia Section

Adel M. Alimi

List the activities carried out to foster relations with Industry and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help your Section in your industry-related activities?

The following activities fostered our industry relations:

- Organizing IEEE Technical activities to increase the technical skills of our industry members
- Organizing industry tours to the main companies and manufactures for IEEE students
- Inviting industrial engineers to participate in the IEEE conferences
- Signing cooperation agreements with main companies in Tunisia
- Co-founded the IoT Tunisia group in cooperation with well-known ICT companies in Tunisia in order to help developing Internet of Things related projects.

Major successes since the last meeting in terms of Industry Relations:

- Participation in the main Industry forums in Tunisia
- Meetings with companies stakeholders
- Signing MOUs with SPG Group, Satoripop, GoodWill, Logidas, Primatec
- The number of IEEE professional members from industry increased
- The section newsletter was sent to the local companies in order to present the IEEE Tunisia section activities.

The section will continue to foster Industrial Relations by the following actions:

- Invite companies stakeholders to the students and young professionals congress as well other main IEEE activities
- Organize challenges in cooperation with industry partners
- Sign agreements with main companies.

List the activities addressed to Students and/or Young Professionals and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your students and YP-related activities?

To support our members, the section organized the following activities / programs / initiatives:

- IEEE Tunisian Students and YP congress
- IEEE Tunisian Engineering day for students to present their projects
- Humanitarian projects and events
- Support students and YP to participate to the main IEEE events, including R8SYP, PES Student congress, and IAS annual meeting
- Support student branches, student chapters, and WIE student groups to organize their activities.

To better support our members, the section needs more financial support from IEEE and from Companies.

Major successes since the last meeting: The section supported the following activities:

- World Robot Olympiad WRO Tunisian Qualifications <http://wro.ieee.tn>
- 5 International conferences (SMS, ComNet, JCCO, SmartNets, and ICM)
- IOT workshop and IOT Annual Forum and DDL Summer School and DevFest Smart Cities Hackathon and I-Protect Cyber Security workshop and open Energy Day
- IEEE WIE International Leadership Summit (WIEILS) <http://wiels.ieee.tn>
- Invitation of Distinguished Lecturers
- Create 1 chapter, 1 SB, 1 WIE student group, 1 student chapter.

The section will continue to foster Students and Young Professionals activities by supporting:

- Humanitarian and SIGHT projects
- Entrepreneurship and Professional activities
- Educational and Technical activities
- 7th TSYP congress on 15-17 December 2019.

List the activities carried out to retain and recruit members and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your membership-related activities?

Here is the list of activities carried out to retain and recruit members in Tunisia Section:

- Help members to renew their memberships with local payments.
- Support the activities of the subunits.
- Encourage the new initiatives of volunteers.
- Invite companies stakeholders to the students and young professionals congress as well other main IEEE activities
- Organize challenges in cooperation with industry partners
- Spreading booths in Tunisian University especially in Preparatory Schools

List the activities intended to support chapters, affinity groups, and student branches and the results obtained. List the related initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your support to chapters, affinity groups, and student branches?

The section is:

- Ensuring prompt communications with our members by email, eNotice, IEEE Collabratec, and Facebook
- Organized the election of the Chair-Elect, Secretary, Treasurer, and Chapters officers for the term of 2019-2020
- Nominated members with over 10 years of professional activities for senior member grade
- Searching for new volunteers to activate some dormant chapters and helping them to organize activities
- Attracting more members to become volunteers within IEEE
- Continually updating the website of the section <http://www.ieee.tn>.

To improve Section vitality and sustainability, the section needs more financial support.

The major successes since the last meeting in terms of Section Vitality are the following:

- Signing MOU with Ministry of Education, Order of Tunisian Engineers, Association of Scientific Research and Innovation in Computer Science (ARSII), IBM Tunisian, and ICT Federation of UTICA.
- Organized section awards ceremony to recognize our volunteers and subunits who contributed with valuable achievements.
- Loyalty pins and certificates presented to members with over 20 years of memberships.

The section is trying to foster the Section Vitality by the following actions:

- Help members to renew their memberships with local payments.
- Support the activities of the subunits.
- Encourage the new initiatives of volunteers.





Turkey Section

Murat Uysal

List the activities carried out to foster relations with Industry and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help your Section in your industry-related activities?

In the Turkey Section, the Industry Relations Coordinator acts as a liaison between industry and the Section. This coordinator position has been instrumental to foster industry relations. It has been particularly useful to secure some sponsorship from the industry for locally organized IEEE conferences. For example, we just finished the organization of COMSOC's prestigious PIMRC conference held last week at Istanbul. Turkey's largest cellular operator Turkcell became the major financial supporter of this event. Other supporters include Ericsson, Huawei, Aselsan and Rohde-Schwarz.

List the activities addressed to Students and/or Young Professionals and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your students and YP-related activities?

In the Turkey Section, the Student Activities Coordinator acts as an interface between the executive committee and student branches. This coordinator provides guidance to student branches, attends student branch meetings/congresses, and other related activities. Last month, we organized the third edition of Annual Senior Thesis Project competition open to IEEE Student Members. In collaboration with some industrial sponsors, we offered several prizes for the winners. Such activities aim to keep the student members engaged in our activities.

Our Section considers the Young Professionals Affinity Group as a key to continue the commitments of IEEE student volunteers after their graduation. In collaboration with YP, we recently launched Mentor - Mentee program where students are brought together with volunteer engineers for guidance and mentorships on topics of mutual interest.

List the activities carried out to retain and recruit members and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your membership-related activities?

There was not any particular activity for membership development. We plan to revive these activities after we recruited a new membership development coordinator.

List the activities intended to support chapters, affinity groups, and student branches and the results obtained. List the related initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your support to chapters, affinity groups, and student branches?

IEEE Turkey executive committee encourages all Technical Chapter Chairs to increase their activity level by organizing short courses/seminars, workshops and conferences in their expertise areas. We further provide administrative and technical support in their activities if required.

Uganda Section

Vincent Olema

List the activities carried out to foster relations with Industry and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help your Section in your industry-related activities?

I am sharing this report on behalf of IEEE Uganda Section. This report covers our Section Activities from January to October, 2019 and it also initiatives for the next months.

Closer to Industry Activities that were carried-out to foster relations with Industry include the following:

Second Consultative Engineering Workshop: Perfecting the Neopenda 4-in-1 Vital Signs Monitor to Save Lives at Birth in Ugandan Communities

Date: 18th January, 2019 Time: 08:00 a.m. - 05:00 p.m. Venue: Resilient Africa Network (RAN), Plot 30, and Upper Terrace Kololo - Kampala, Uganda.

IEEE Uganda Section in - Conjunction with IEEE SIGHT Uganda Section Group and Neopenda (USA based medical Reasech organization) organized this second consultative Engineering workshop on perfecting the Neopenda 4-in-1 Vital Signs Monitor. There were over 50 participants who were invited to participate at the event. The participants comprised of Biomedical, Electrical, Mechanical, Telecommunication, Computer Engineers, Medical Doctors, technicians and public health professionals to discuss and brainstorm improvements for the Neopenda vital signs monitoring device and system. Some of the invited workshop attendees were identified from the 1st Consultative Engineering Workshop, IEEE Uganda Section SIGHT members, and partnering hospitals etc.

The event was successful, at this moment we are now working on the recommendations that came out of the Engineering Workshop especially the break-away sessions to perfect the medical device.

The project is funded by SIGHT and HAC and it is on-going project where we were able interact with Industries in many activities. This project also increased our IEEE membership with about 50 participants.

To know about the 4-In-1 medical Wearerable Dveice: <https://www.enstartup.com/2018/07/31/neopenda-using-wearable-vital-signs-monitor-reduce-newborn-deaths-uganda/>

Academia Meets with Industry 2019: Date: 10th - 11Apr, 09:00 - 11th/10/2019. Time: 08:00 a.m. - 05:00 p.m. Venue: Royal Suites, Bugolobi, Plot 1th8-20 Binayomba Road, Luthuli Ave, Kampala, Uganda

This event was organized by Silver Bullet in collaboration with IEEE Uganda Section. Over 580 participants took part in AMI2019 representing industry practitioners, educators, Government agencies, regulators, professional associations, innovation support centres, students and other stakeholders. The audience had representation from a broad spectrum of stakeholders including educators, industry practitioners, regulators, professional associations, development partners and innovation support centers. Participants were drawn from all over the country, and and there was a strong showing for women, making up 40% of participants.

Background Recognizing that Science, Technology, Engineering and Innovation are key driver for development, we need to expand and deepen our capability to leverage technology and develop solutions for our fast-growing society and communities. To create the highly skilled and qualified workforce needed, it is essential to have continual interactions between industry and academia that will ensure continuous exchange of relevant knowledge to address challenges in an ever-changing environment. Purpose To create networks that will support creation of an engineering workforce is suitably prepared for the current and the future, needs of industry and the country as defined in Vision 2040. Objective Leverage the broad network of STEI practitioners to stimulate multidisciplinary and cross-sectoral discussion between academia and industry stakeholders to: i. identify current and future STEI needs of the country ii. identify challenges affecting the human resource shift to industry iii. Stimulate communication between the stakeholders aimed at solving the highlighted challenges.

Target audience The event was intended for full participation from: 1. Academia (students, educators and researchers) 2. Industry (innovators, practitioners and associations) 3. Government of Uganda (policy makers and regulators).

Synopsis Feedback received from various industry actors indicates that the academic programs are not well aligned with their specific needs. Owing to the dynamic nature of the industry environment, actors need to be agile and hence often operate using relatively short range goals; academia on the other hand make use of long range operations and in many cases, also lack the resources to enable the agility required to meet the ever-changing skills demanded by industry. The gap between academic programs and industry needs is contributing to low levels of workplace preparedness amongst new entrants to the work force. Proposed actions Despite their different goals and mind-sets, should be twined. Industry should be involved in education to boost the technical skills development. Bridging programs need to be promoted to assist in transitioning new entrants between academia and industry. Programs like UMA's "Ready to Work" have demonstrated that this can be sustainable and efficient approach to developing STEI personnel and can serve as models for replication.

The event link: https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/5995f4_5024a738d2a042f290473a8aa61beb9f.pdf This event was sponsored by IEEE, Eighty Seven, NITA Uganda, Action Aid, Uganda Manufacturing Association and Silver Bullet.

The activities that we have planned for the next Six Months are as follows:

We would like to organize 3 Workshops:

- IEEE - Industry familiarization meeting, 18th November, 2019 at Hotel Africa; where IEEE Uganda Section Industry ambassadors interface with Industry and see how they write MOUs to collaborate.
- Entrepreneurship workshop , where we invite successful business owners to come talk with both IEEE members and Students to start business.
- IEEE - Industry Collocation awareness, which will be carried-out by IEEE Uganda Section Industry ambassadors.
- IEEE Uganda Section Engineering Day 03 - 04 March, 2020at St. Lawrence University; where Students exhibit their research / Final year projects to industries for easy scaling purposes.

How IEEE Uganda Section can be helped by Region 8

Would like Region 8 help us to carry-out these activities? IEEE Uganda Section main challenges is funds to carry-out is activities. The first help is funding with at least \$ 10,000 USD. Samples of writing MOU

List the activities addressed to Students and/or Young Professionals and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your students and YP-related activities?

Following were the activities that were organized so far addressed Student and You Professionals:

- Holding regular meetings
- Organized training on: How to write SIGHT Proposals; Dated 2th/02/2019 at Kyambogo University so as to engage them to write projects that alleviate the community problems.
- Team Building workshop at Mbarara University on 28th/03/2019 help to work in teams to achieve results.
- Organized Distinguished lectures etc.
- Career talks so that they can make good decisions to make good career path
- We have organized for students and pre-university (high school) students STEM oriented presentations.

6 Months planned include the following:

- Organize more distinguished lectures
- Organize team building workshops
- Entrepreneurship sessions
- Regular meetings etc
- Organize SYP local Conference

Region 8 should help in the following:

- Funds to support SYP activities
- regular mails with opportunities

List the activities carried out to retain and recruit members and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your membership-related activities?

- Section Chair - reminding members to renew their memberships
- Conduct direct outreach activities to potential referral sources.
- Constant organization of Activities to keep our members and enjoy the IEEE benefits
- Continuous appreciation of IEEE Volunteers that way members remain active
- Regular mails to thank members on for attending IEEE Section Activities
- The MD officer sends out renewing e-mails for the IEEE HS members.
- Organize regular meeting
- Non-renewing members are asked to give feedback why not renewed their membership.

Planned 6 months planned activities include:

- End of year Social evening networking events
- Organized Trainings for MD Officers how recruit and retain IEEE members
- Organize regular meeting.

Region 8 should can help in the following ways:

- Motivate members who renew their membership on time
- Send funding to help Section with funding to conduct trainings
- Reward regular MD Officers with IEEE materials; which they can rewards IEEE members locally.

List the activities intended to support chapters, affinity groups, and student branches and the results obtained. List the related initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your support to chapters, affinity groups, and student branches?

Activities intended to support chapters, affinity groups, and student branches and the results obtained.

- We organized distinguished lectures and invited members from the chapters, affinity and student branches to attend.
- Funded some of the activities of chapters, affinity and student branches
- We identified local distinguished Lecturers for chapters, affinity and student branches.

List the related initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes.

- Have regular meetings with leaders of chapters, affinity and student branches.
- Promote Collaboration so to identify local funding opportunities to support activities.
- Identify Distinguished Lectures for chapters, affinity and student branches.

Region 8 can help in the following ways:

- Identify and support the Distinguished Lectures
- Send funds to support the activities of these chapters, affinity and student branches.

Please, note all our activities are filed in Vtools for further i refer there.

Ukraine Section

Evgen Pichkalyov

List the activities carried out to foster relations with Industry and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help your Section in your industry-related activities?

We sign National Society Agreement with Association of Industrial Automation of Ukraine (APPAU) this summer. We hope to intensify activities (including standards development) in the next half year. In particular, these will be several technical meetings.

List the activities addressed to Students and/or Young Professionals and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your students and YP-related activities?

Section supported the creation of first IEEE student branch in Odessa. We plan to conduct training for students of volunteers, as well as introduce a program of support for student volunteers.

List the activities carried out to retain and recruit members and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your membership-related activities?

Our Membership Development Officer regularly sends out information to Section members. We organize IEEE conferences that allow to attract new members. We held the flagship IEEE UKRCON conference in July 2019 — 300+ participants and guests. This year we have achieved both MD goals and received a gold award.

List the activities intended to support chapters, affinity groups, and student branches and the results obtained. List the related initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your support to chapters, affinity groups, and student branches?

Chapters chairs participate in regular meetings of the Section Executive Committee and training. We regularly organize elections according to the IEEE procedures; in the next 6 months, elections of the Section officers will be held.

United Arab Emirates Section

Dr. Fatma Taher

List the activities carried out to foster relations with Industry and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help your Section in your industry-related activities?

The IEEE UAE Section is striving to enrich its relationship with the industry. Here are some of the steps taken toward that:

- Engaging industry members to participate in the IEEE Student Day.
- Engaging industry members in the Section meetings and annual meeting.
- Inviting industry members to attend technical events like seminar and symposium.
- Renew the current MoUs with universities and organizations.
- Increase our partnership with the industry through long term MoUs and partnership agreements.

For further improvements, we suggest:

- Initiating Company Bulk Membership within IEEE.
- Hosting IEEE seminars and competitions.
- Initiating technical workshops for IEEE members in the industry.
- Visit the big companies with engineering background and invite them to join IEEE.

List the activities addressed to Students and/or Young Professionals and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your students and YP-related activities?

To attract future members, the IEEE UAE Section has been trying to:

- Organize seminars and inviting distinguished speakers to talk about recent topics.
- Gather students for networking through the IEEE Student day and the annual meeting.
- Help new academic institutes to establish IEEE Student Branches.
- Visit different Universities and invite their faculty and research staff to join IEEE.

List the activities carried out to retain and recruit members and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your membership-related activities?

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List the activities intended to support chapters, affinity groups, and student branches and the results obtained. List the related initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your support to chapters, affinity groups, and student branches?

To maintain section vitality, the following are considered:

- Arranging regular section meetings.
- Organizing the IEEE Student day and the annual meeting.
- Establish partnership with local and regional entities.
- Inviting IEEE students to attend organizations' events.

We recommend:

- Capitalizing on opportunities to promote the values and benefits of IEEE. One way of doing so is to request an IEEE booth in all conferences and exhibitions that the IEEE UAE sponsors.
- Conducting professional activities to attract more members from the industry.



United Kingdom and Ireland Section

Michael Hinchey

List the activities carried out to foster relations with Industry and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help your Section in your industry-related activities?

Our United Kingdom and Ireland (UKI) Section has an Industry Delivery Officer, and also an Industry Liaison Officer, these two key officers ensure we have continuing collaboration with industry Update on ongoing projects, a couple of which have been successfully completed, and some new initiatives include:

- The work with Rolls-Royce is considered to have been successful, however we discovered quite late in the process that RR had an existing contractual arrangement with the IEEE to access much of the material they needed for their internal re-training. We were able to re-activate that and assist them, but that achieved little in the way of membership growth in industry. This raises issues regarding internal communication between the IEEE staff and the 'changing pool' of volunteers.
- The major barrier to progress remains the ability of the IEEE to facilitate professional registration with the Engineering Council (CEng, IEng, EngTech or ITC Tech). Since many companies want that and will generally only pay one set of membership subscriptions people who were IEEE members at university are lost to other PEI's.
- We got close to an arrangement with the IMechE but that faltered due to the IMechE's own governance problems which led to staff changes. This could be re-initialised now that IMechE has stabilised, but we need to re-confirm that is the preferred approach.
- To discuss that I will be meeting with Jose Moura, Ali Hessami, Tariq Durrani, and Sir Robin Saxby in London on 16th September. Unfortunately, Mike is unable to join us due to teaching commitments.
- And further update would be appropriate after that meeting.

The Region could assist by clarifying if professional registration with the Engineering Council is something, we, as a Section, could leverage from the Region, if they already have established channel for this?

List the activities addressed to Students and/or Young Professionals and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your students and YP-related activities?

The following initiatives pertaining to Student and Young Professionals exist in our Section:

- Hosting, planning and organisation of the WEUSYP Congress in Glasgow - Progress available at: <https://wesyp.org/>



- Encourage timely reporting to ensure branch rebates and avoid branch closure - significant increase in reporting observed
- Support student branches with event hosting, for example:
 - IEEE ACDS Conference on Advances in Communications, Devices and Systems held at Imperial College London, UK
 - IEEE 'Literature Review Made Easy by Using Technical Publications' at Manchester
- Promotion of IEEE UK and Ireland activities at the IEEE CEUSYP Congress
- Encouragement of UK and Ireland to enter IEEE Student Branch awards (Exemplary Student Branch, Student Branch Website)
- Preparation of a UK and Ireland entry to the IEEE Larry K Wilson award.

List the activities carried out to retain and recruit members and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your membership-related activities?

- We continue to provide a number of member value propositions ranging from professional registration to charter status, which may allow us to award Charter-level recognitions to our members, like those offered by the IET and IMechE.
- We have formed the IEEE Blockchain Group, the first IEEE Blockchain Group in Region 8. This Group has over 120 members, and will be launched on 24th February 2020 at the London Metropolitan University, London, UK <https://www.ieee-ukandireland.org/eventieee-united-kingdom-ireland-blockchain-launch-2020>
- Our IEEE Blockchain Group organises a free monthly webinars to our Section members, a value-add to both our members and non-members. Previous recordings of the webinars are freely available on our Section website <https://www.ieee-ukandireland.org/chaptersblockchain>

List the activities intended to support chapters, affinity groups, and student branches and the results obtained. List the related initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your support to chapters, affinity groups, and student branches?

- We continue to provide a number of member value propositions ranging from professional registration to charter status, which may allow us to award Charter-level recognitions to our members, like those offered by the IET and IMechE.

- Our Section has formed SIGHT and Humanitarian activities including HAC and will appointing leaders for these groups.
- We hold regular Section meetings - both online and face to face, the next face to face meeting will be on the 17th October in Manchester, UK.
- We have had several online meetings, student branches activities, lectures and workshops, e.g. we organised a student branch lecture at Kings College London, kCL in March 2019
- In the coming months or so, we aim to establish a cross-regional MoUs with other Region 8 Sections that allow us to collaborate, organise mutual events, and activities.

IEEE United Kingdom and Ireland Section

Our Sections' Women in Engineering (WiE) scoops the 2019 IEEE Region 8 WiE Affinity Group of the Year Award
(Report can be found on <https://www.ieee-ukandireland.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/IEEE-WIE-UKI-2018-Activities-Report.pdf>)



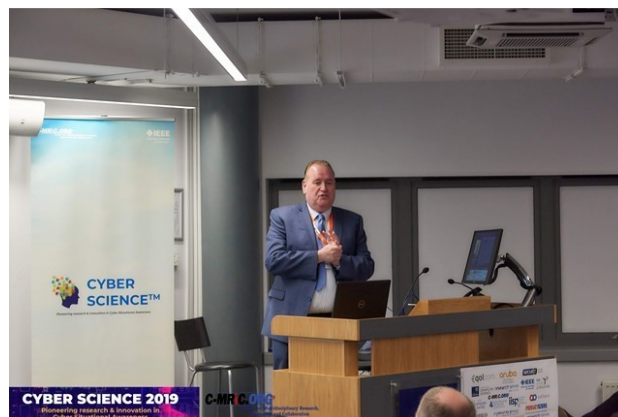
(L-R) Princy, Helen, Naeemeh, Noushin, Keeley, Amy, Annabel and Ruth

Here's Annabel Latham representing women in computer science by signing the STEM bee:



Annabel Latham and the STEM bee

We also hosted the **IEEE Cyber Science 2019 at the University of Oxford on June 3-4, 2019.**
Conference was opened by our **Section Chair, Professor Mike Hinchey** on June 3, 2019.
Here's a photo of Mike presenting a Keynote at the event. <https://www.c-mric.com/cyber2019>



We also hosted the IEEE Cyber Science 2019 at the University of Oxford on June 3-4, 2019.

Group photograph of the event, first day (June 3, 2019)

<https://www.c-mric.com/cyber2019>



We also hosted the IEEE Cyber Science 2019 at the University of Oxford on June 3-4, 2019.

Group photograph of the event, second day (June 4, 2019)

<https://www.c-mric.com/cyber2019>



Zambia Section

Simon Muwowo

List the activities carried out to foster relations with Industry and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help your Section in your industry-related activities?

- The Section has coordinated two presentations from Distinguished Lecturers (DL)
- Membership recruitment from the industry has been intensified resulting in a higher membership in the Section than before
- In the next 6 months, we expect to sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the local Engineering Institution of Zambia (EIZ) to allow IEEE Zambia to coordinate with EIZ in the activities with the practicing engineering professionals
- The Section is also facilitating the IEEE Focus Meeting in October 2019 aimed at sustainable IEEE professional and continuing education resources for practicing engineers
- Help from Region 8 is needed in financing the activities in the Section

News Section of our UK and Ireland Section Website
<https://www.ieee-ukandireland.org/section-news/>

Section News

<div style="background-color: #0070C0; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">1 09, 2019</div> <div style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold; margin-top: 10px;">WESYP '19</div> <div style="font-size: 0.8em; margin-top: 5px;">West European Student & Young Professional Congress 19th-21st September 2019, Glasgow UK</div>		<p>WESYP 2019 – Early Bird Registrations Extended to 5th September 2019 & Travel Grant Support Available</p> <p>September 1st, 2019 Categories: Young Professionals</p> <p>We are delighted to announce that early bird registrations for the West Europe Student and Young Professional Congress (WESYP) 2019 in Glasgow, UK from 19 to 21 September have been extend to 5th September 2019. Travel grant support is also available.</p> <p style="text-align: right; font-size: 0.8em;">Read More ></p>
<div style="background-color: #0070C0; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">31 08, 2019</div>		<p>Call For Papers 2nd Postgraduate STEM Research Symposium</p> <p>August 31st, 2019 Categories: Young Professionals</p> <p>The IEEE UK & Ireland Young Professionals and the University of Leeds IEEE Student Branch are collaborating to organise the 2nd Postgraduate STEM Research Symposium on 23rd October 2019 at the University of Leeds.</p> <p style="text-align: right; font-size: 0.8em;">Read More ></p>
<div style="background-color: #0070C0; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">5 08, 2019</div>		<p>PES Chapter Awarded High Performing Chapter Status</p> <p>August 5th, 2019 Categories: Power and Energy</p> <p>IEEE UK and Ireland Power and Energy Society Chapter has been awarded the accolade of "High Performing Chapter" based on their performance in the year 2018.</p>

List the activities addressed to Students and/or Young Professionals and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your students and YP-related activities?

- Supporting the Education Partnership for Africa (EPA) programs
- Encouraging and supporting students and Young Professionals to participate in IEEE activities
- A Student Branch at the University of Zambia has been opened
- Planning to open branches in other colleges and universities in the next 6 months
- Region 8 can help to provide student membership grants in order to increase the membership and participation in branch activities

List the activities carried out to retain and recruit members and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your membership-related activities?

Activities carried out to retain and recruit members involved information sharing through WhatsApp group, emails and visits. Benefits from lectures from our DL have encouraged member retention. Through the MoU with EIZ , the Section expects to grow the membership. Region 8 can support the Section with promotional materials.

List the activities intended to support chapters, affinity groups, and student branches and the results obtained. List the related initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your support to chapters, affinity groups, and student branches?

- Increase in lectures from DL
- Industrial visits for students
- Encourage students to participate in IEEE activities
- Monthly meetings with the student branches
- Region 8 to support with promotional materials



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