

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 industry-focused events, and improve quality of technically co-sponsored conferences;
- 4) Improve professional and educational activities programs to provide better value to members;
- 5) Expand standards-related offerings;
- 6) Engage with Africa Council to expand TA activities in Africa;
- 7) Increase TA activities focused on Students and Young Professionals;
- 8) Increase coordination between sub-committees;

Status

I held strategy meetings with four Sub-Committees (all members of SCs) in December 2019. The fifth meeting with the Standards team did not go ahead due to clashes and will be held in February 2019.

Similar to 2019, the plan is to hold 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. This will be in addition to regular email communications.

- Progress has been made on the revitalization of Chapter Coordination with a clear plan of action in place for 2020;
- Conference Coordination team is focusing on (a) the outlook of Region 8 flagship conferences is strong, (b) improving the quality of technically co-sponsored conferences and (c) IHTC 2019 is delivered in coordination with HuASC;
- Afl is expanding its program set in 2020 to include mentorship;
- PEASC held successful TISP week and Alpha Engineers programs towards the end of 2019. Speakers program is expanding with the addition of qualified speakers;
- Standards coordinator role has been expanded and Region 8 now has an Ad hoc Standards Activities Sub-Committee. They'll be carrying forward the structured programs established in 2019;
- Afl held a meeting of African Industry Ambassadors in Kenya in August 2019. The meeting was held to coordinate and increase industry activities in Africa and was in coordination with Sections in Africa;
- New members added in TA SCs to ensure sufficient volunteer resource is available to carry out activities effectively.

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.

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

None at the moment.

Financial Position

2020 budget coordinated with the Treasurer. A key highlight is the \$16,000 seed fund added for IHTC 2020 and IHTC 2021. This fund will be returned (with any surplus) to Region 8 after the conferences.