

Denmark Section

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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. In addition, the Section has just elected a new chair as the Industry Relations Coordinator in the Section. The chair is from the Danish Industry, and we have planned activities in 2020 for continuing the engagement of 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 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, which 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 2020, 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. Additionally, we have also elected a new chair in the Section for Student Activities. This will further help the entire Section and serve the members in Denmark. We will expect a further increase of the members in 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?

In 2019, we had an increase of +10% in the number of members in the section. Now, the section has for the first time over 1000 members. In 2019, the Section received the 2019 Outstanding Section Membership Recruitment Performance banner from the IEEE Membership Recruitment and Recovery Committee. The majority members are student members. With the two established AGs, we will increase the visibility in the Region in the next months as well. Furthermore, we are working on establishing student branches and student chapters in other technical universities in Denmark (e.g., the Southern Denmark University and Aarhus University). This is expected to be finalized in 2020, and after that, we will expect more members in the Section. More importantly, the Section will strive for more activities in Denmark to serve the members, i.e., at the Section, Chapter, AG, and Student Branch levels. 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 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 several events, where chapters and student branches were involved. By the next reporting cycle, we expect to increase the section vitality further. 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. The Section is also working on to collaborate with the local organizations to jointly organize events at universities or in companies in 2020.

2020 will be the 200th anniversary of Oersted's discovery of electromagnetism at the University of Copenhagen in 1820. As this was one of the major achievements underlying virtually all technologies within IEEE's areas of interest, following the suggestion from the IEEE History Center, the IEEE Denmark Section will propose this as an IEEE Milestone. Relevant activities will be organized to further increase the vitality of the Section.

Challenges (with a focus on what support is required from Region 8)

We have not yet had any interaction with the Vienna office, but we would expect more here in 2020. In particular, we hope that Region 8 or the IEEE Office in Vienna could provide supports in, e.g., industry contacts, dissemination of good Practices, new initiatives, and lectures.