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?

A webinar Series entitled "How to use LinkedIN effectively" & "Electrify your Career" was held in October. The first part of the event aimed at informing the participants about the opportunities the Linkedin tool offers to young professionals who are currently searching for a job. The speaker, Stavros Antoniou who serves as Recruitment Forward Thinker at Grecruitment, an internationally operating recruitment company, gave a valuable insight on the skills an employer looks for when hiring. In addition to this, he also commented on some of the participants' LinkedIn profiles, highlighting not only the strong points but also the improvements that can be made. The second part of the event included live skype interviews with engineers who work abroad. The attendees had the chance to discuss with graduates and share their concerns about their future after graduation.

The newly appointed IEEE Industry Ambassador (Dr George Peppas) and the Industry Relations Coordinator (Dr. Thomas Tsovilis) made the first contact with R&D department of prominent Greek Companies of the private sector: Raycap SA, ELMKO SA, Hellenic Cables SA. The collaboration of the IEEE Greece Section and the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki with ELEMKO SA resulted in a Humanitarian Contest Award at IEEE Industry Applications Society for the project entitled "Lightning Protection of Cultural Heritage Monuments: The Parthenon Case Study". This work has been carried out by IEEE Student member, Mr. Alexios Ioannidis, under the supervision of Prof. Thomas Tsovilis and CEO of ELEMKO SA, Dr. Nikolaos Kokkinos. You may find related video at: https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/197VWqZsBDrRtVur4i4aLMESDT8btK2yp One of the undergoing projects of the IEEE Young Professionals Greece, is the creation of a mentorship program, which will connect young professionals with members of both academia and industry, in order to guide them through the first steps of their professional career. We also intend to set up IEEE internship positions in Industry; ideally with IEEE members as mentors, promote joint projects of Academia & Industry to publish related work in IEEE Conferences (2021) and disseminate results with societal impact. Moreover, we plan to invite industry representatives to events such as the Student's Conference of Electrical and Computer Engineering (ECESCON 12, Spring 2021) to make new connections of IEEE Student Branches with local industry.

Region 8 can help us by offering a budget for organization workshops of students and junior engineers with mentors in Industry at national or international level; ideally in R&D environment, sharing good practices of Region in results dissemination of industry-related workshops and entrepreneurship events and sharing experience of Region on the MoUs agreements (format and changes done) that were signed from Industry representatives in the context of AfI since it is difficult to convince upper management of companies to commit to a potential agreement (legal departments will be involved).

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 Greece Section hosted a session within the IEEE R8 Virtual Student and Young Professional (R8Syp) Congress on September 16, 2020. The session was attended by 1100 students and young professionals from Europe, Middle East and Africa. Our invited speaker, Dr Despina Moschou, gave a very interesting presentation on the timely topic of Lab-on-Chip biomedical diagnostic chips, addressing the COVID-19 outbreak challenge.

The Covid-19 pandemic served as a catalyst for new collaborations between the Greek Student Branches. They launched a panhellenic organizational effort for the upcoming IEEEXtreme 14.0 Competition, focusing on three different axes; a coordinated online promotion for the competition, a common fundraising effort to provide extra benefits to the competition's participants, as well as a Discord server for the Student Branches and the teams. The IEEE Greece Computer Chapter in collaboration with the student branches organised five IEEEXtreme training sessions, attended by more than 70 students in which problems related to previous competitions were discussed. The new Discord server will later be used as an online platform to enhance the communication and the collaborations between the IEEE Greek Student 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?

The IEEE Greece Section, in collaboration with the IEEE Young Professionals Greece, the Women in Engineering Greece, and the IEEE National Technical University of Athens Student Branch organized an online Soft Skills Workshop in April. Marianna Terzidaki, an independent career coach who studied Electrical Engineering at NTUA and got an MSc in Operational Research from the University of Birmingham, presented the soft skills that employers seek today. In a 90' presentation she talked about the basic "soft skills" and she focused on four of them; Understanding and managing change, resilience, teamwork, leadership. We also discussed cases where one can demonstrate these skills and how you can practice them along his career journey. We aim to foster new cutting edge technologies and organize technical sessions which will broaden our members' horizons. To that end, we also held a seminar in an additive method of creating solid 3D objects, the 3D printing. It is a constantly evolving technology which, in recent years, has made the implementation of an idea and the creation of a prototype fast and low cost. During the workshop, every stage of the 3D printing procedure was briefly described, from the 3D design and editing (slicing) of an object with the appropriate printing and material settings, to its final printing.

The IEEE Greece Section celebrated the IEEE Day and its 50th Anniversary with a series of online events organised by its Chapters and Affinity Groups in the first week of October. Six events were organized during the IEEE week, from 5 to 11 of October;

- Tuesday, October 6, 2020 Prof. Despina Moschou, Integrated Lab-on-Chip biomedical diagnostic chips: the SARS-CoV-2 example and beyond, IEEE Greece Section

- Tuesday, October 6, 2020 Leveraging technology for a better today and tomorrow, IEEE University of Patras Student Branch
- Wednesday, October 7, 2020 Dr Panayiotis Moutis & Dionysios Stamatiadis, Trends and challenges of future power grids, IEEE Young Professionals, IEEE NTUA Student Branch, IEEE PES NTUA Student Branch, Smart RUE of NTUA
- Thursday, October 8, 2020, Prof. Ilias Maglogiannis, Advanced telehealth services in the new era, IEEE EMB Greece Chapter
- Thursday, October 8, 2020, Michail Bletsas, Keynote: Anti-Social Media? Panel, Exploring Exciting Career Paths for Young Engineers, IEEE Communications Greece Chapter, IEEE IHU Thessaloniki Student Branch
- Friday, October 9, 2020, 1st Panhellenic Meetup, Prof Asimina Kiourti, Electromagnetics for Next-Generation Body Area Sensing & Science Reactors, Stand Up Comedy, IEEE Women in Engineering Greece Chapter

A range of satellite events will also be held until the end of the year, to address the variety of different scientific interests in our section. The first edition of the IEEE Greece Section newsletter was also released in September 2020. This new initiative aims at connecting the greek members and informing them about the latest news and events along with job opportunities in Greece. Furthermore, a new Linkedin IEEE Greece Section page which serves the same purpose, was launched in August.

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 June 2020 the formation of the IEEE Greece Section Advisory Committee was approved. This group consists of the past three chairs of the IEEE Greece Section who bring unique knowledge and skills. They shall play an important role by making recommendations and providing key information to all the members of the IEEE Greece Section. Additionally, the proposal for the creation of a Collabratec working space for the IEEE Greece Section and its OUs was also accepted. It will be used as a collaboration work area for discussion, planning and brainstorming between the officers of the groups. In October 2020, a new dedicated WebEx account for our section, which will host the online events and meeting of the greek OUs, was created. Over the past six months, one new Student Branch Affinity Group and five new Student Branch Chapters were formed at the Univ of Thessaly, the Democritus Univ of Thrace, the University of Thessaly and the National Technical University of Athens. Moreover, three Conference Registration Applications within IEEE Greece Section have been approved; the 2021 IEEE Emerging Technology Reliability Roundtable (ETR-RT), the 2021 IEEE 37th International Conference on Data Engineering (ICDE) and the 2021 International Conference on Unmanned Aircraft Systems (ICUAS).

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

One of our first priorities is not only to bring new members in our section but also to engage the existing ones, urging them to get involved in the section's activities. Establishing a continuous communication with our OUs and their members, promoting the wide range of sectional and regional activities, is the key to achieve the aforementioned goal.