Publications and Communications Subcommittee

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Goals
1) Consolidate and streamline R8 communications
2) Establish and consolidate editorial board
3) Facilitate communication of R8 with the membership/public at large
4) Research and establish a new periodical: Region 8 Sigma

Progress against goals since the last report
1) R8 Today, R8 Social Media and Website now have measurable outputs and are reporting these at every reporting point. New initiatives for content creation and to unify outputs - especially in this COVID-19 era - have been implemented.
2) R8 Sigma: I call went out to all R8 committee members looking for editorial members, unfortunately no-one volunteered - although some contact was made regarding content. An issue of R8 Sigma is still planned for the end of the year.

Points of Concern
A major sticking point was R8 News stalled due to unavailability of the Editor - whilst this was concerning whilst there was no contact, this has been established and all content has now been transferred to new Editor and plans for next issue if R8 News are under way.

Initiatives developed
- Mainly see points relating to reporting on traffic/measurable for each of our channels;
- A publication plan for the first issue of Sigma has been developed and an issue is aimed for towards the end of 2020.
  The main features of the issue planned are as follows (these are headlines):
  ◦ Foreword on issue by EiC;
  ◦ In depth article about current R8 Director and Director elect;
  ◦ An article about the founding of the IEEE within R8 (speaking to life-fellows);
  ◦ An article about IEEE Office in Vienna + Clara;
  ◦ A technical article.

Initiatives planned

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Proposals for improvements
1) New Editor for R8 News (Catia Bandeiras) taking over and starting to put together latest version of R8 News;
2) Re-issue call for contributors to R8 Sigma.

Other Issues to report
The main issue has been R8 News issue - this has been addressed now and we are trying to "catch-up" - it is advisable to find at least another volunteer to join the R8 News team (preferably 2) in order to split the load and try and ensure R8 News remains uninterrupted in the future.