Sections Congress Coordinator: Costas Stasopoulos

Goals
To get the best Sections Congress 2020 Recommendations from our Region and follow up the whole process in Sections Congress.

Progress against goals since the last report
Submitted the recommendations and attended the virtual Sections Congress.

Sections Congress preparation report
The recommendations were solicited from the Sections, checked, corrected for errors and submitted to the Sections Congress Organizing Committee. The recommendations from all Regions were put together and duplicates were combined. The full list of recommendations was publicized and voted by the Section representatives to get the top 3 recommendations.

The Sections Congress took place as virtual and Regio 8 representatives were encouraged to participate. Now we are in the process of finding ways of making the top 3 recommendations a reality.

Proposals for improvements
Increased involvement from the Sections by making the whole process more interactive.

Points of Concern
Not all the Sections attended the virtual Sections Congress events.

Other Issues to report

---

**Top Three 2020 Recommendations**

**Recommendation 1:**
Create a 3-5 multi-year IEEE membership fee structure with discounts

This structure would benefit IEEE by ensuring that the members stay with IEEE for a longer period. The structure would also greatly benefit members by providing options for more cost-effective membership. Other professional societies have been exercising multi-year membership fee structures, which have proven to be highly effective and successful.

**Recommendation 2:**
Provide continuing education to provide true value added for working professionals

Present short courses on emerging technical topics including a documented certification, including professional development hours. The ILN is not competitive to 3rd party alternatives. To increase member retention, offer 1 course per year to each member. Additionally develop online presentations similar to TED talks on engineering topics.
**Top Three 2020 Recommendations**

**RECOMMENDATION 1**
Provide resources to Sections to serve industry professionals and engage with local industries

To better serve industry professionals, IEEE to provide industry seminars including technical presentations, opportunities to earn professional development hours and networking opportunities. IEEE also to provide structural resources such as a Customer Relationship Management platform to track local industry contacts and training to engage with local industries.

---

**Sections Congress 2020 Recommendations - Path Forward**

The following 2020 Recommendation actions were approved at the November 2019 NGA Board Meeting:

- VP NGA to request funding be included in the 2020 budget to work the top 3 Recommendations
- VP NGA to request IEEE President to form an Ad_hoc Committee to include representatives from NGA and other DCOs as appropriate for the top 3 Recommendations
- The Ad_hoc Committee to be assigned a 3 month project charter to strategically review each of the top 3 Recommendations. They are to develop action plans and timelines for each Recommendation. OR provide justification as to why a Recommendation can’t be implemented

The following actions have been completed based on the above:

- IEEE President Toshio Fukada approved NGA Vice President Kulip Chau request to form the Ad_hoc
- Funding for the 2020 Recommendation Implementation to be reviewed and allocated accordingly

The status of the recommendations can be monitored via: [link](https://ieeer8.org/r/2020-november)