

## France Section

**Richard Perdriau, Secretary**

### Section Vitality

*Please provide information about the date of last Section elections, date of next elections, and do you have the practice of Vice-Chair becoming the next Section Chair. Section ExCom meetings (list them and provide brief summary if appropriate). List the activities carried out to retain and recruit members and the results obtained.*

Last Section elections: December 31, 2019

Next Section elections: before December 31, 2022

As France Section is concerned, both the Section Chair and Vice-Chair are elected (the Vice-Chair does not implicitly become the next Chair).

ExCom meetings in 2020:

- March 31<sup>st</sup> (restricted – "Bureau") – General topics
- June 10<sup>th</sup> (restricted) – General topics
- July 7<sup>th</sup> (extended – "Conseil d'Administration") – General topics
- December 21<sup>st</sup> (extended) – General topics

15 requests for technical sponsorship of conferences were received in 2020, among which 13 were accepted.

Some activities were carried out for membership development: monthly Membership Development webcasts, IEEE Member-Get-A-Member (MGM), solicitation of permanent members + students, IEEE promotion through conferences...

Despite those actions, memberships decreased by 23.2 % (Students), 9.7 % (Graduate Students) and 9.1 % (all other categories). It can be noted that sending emails to individual members for renewal did not work as expected.

### Students

*List of Student Branches (SB) in your Section, the newly formed or dissolved SBs, if any since the last meeting reporting (Oct 2020). List the student meetings held and Section activities addressed to Students and Young Professionals.*

Active Student Branches:

- STB02881 University of Lille
- STB15361 University of Bordeaux
- STB08231 Telecom Paris
- STB64264 Ecole CentraleSupélec
- STB10034 Inst Supérieur de l'Aéronautique et de l'Espace
- STB64630 Ecole Polytechnique (Paris)
- STB17521 University of Limoges
- STB06661 Institut Sup Electronique de Paris
- STB11699 Saint Etienne University

Student Branches to be reactivated:

- STB18341 Univ De Franche Comté
- STB66001 Eurecom Institut
- STB05391 Universite Pierre et Marie Curie
- STB12551 Univ de Tech de Belfort-Montbeliard
- STB62561 Telecom Bretagne
- STB08421 Univ De Reims Champagne
- STB64381 Univ of Picardie Jules Verne
- STB99741 Ecole Nat Sup D'Electronique De Toulouse
- STB99801 Ecole Sup D'Elec de l'Ouest
- STB65921 Institut Natl Des Telecommunications
- STB09711 Natl Polytechnic De Grenoble Ensieg

Some events organized by Student Branches:

- Creation of the STB15361 (Bordeaux) YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/c/BEEBranch/featured>

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- STB15361 organizing several talks on microelectronics with top-level international researchers (BEE Talks) and PhD students and graduates (PhD Talks) – a total of 14 talks were held in 2020
  - Promotional videos for STB15361: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tFHwLyCKWBs>
  - Launching a stratospheric weather balloon with contributions from STB15361

The [FrenchSTB@ieee.org](mailto:FrenchSTB@ieee.org) e-mail alias was created for all active French Student Branches.

### Affinity Groups

*List of Affinity Groups (YP, LM, WiE, SIGHT, etc.), list of SB AGs, newly formed or dissolved AGs/SB AGs, if any since the last meeting reporting (Oct 2020). List the activities intended to support affinity groups.*

- LM80005 Life Members
- WE80005 WiE
- YP80005 Young Professionals

LMAG is always very active (4 administrative meetings and 2 technical meetings in 2020, all virtual). Technical meetings dealt with:

- "Artificial Intelligence: Scientific basic elements and ethics questions", presented by Professor Raja Chatila. 75 participants from all over France, Europe and the Middle East.
- "The great André-Marie Ampère and the 200 years of electromagnetism", by Philippe Ponchon, President of SAAMA, "Society of Friends of André-Marie Ampère". 36 participants from all over France and Europe.

WiE: only one event in 2020 (cancelled due to the CoVid pandemic).

YP: no activity in 2020. The YPAG Chair resigned in September. A call for candidates (in October) made it possible to identify a potential volunteer, who finally resigned in January. Another call must be organized.

However, all three Affinity Groups received rebates in 2019 (with activity bonus for LMAG).

### Chapters

*List of Chapters and SB Chapters in your Section, the newly formed or dissolved Chapters, if any since the last meeting reporting (Oct 2020). Indicate how many have reported on time and received rebate. Highlight some of the activities.*

List of Chapters:

- Aerospace and Electronic Systems (AES10)
- Antennas and Propagation (AP03)
- Computer (C16)
- Circuits and Systems (CAS04)
- Computational Intelligence (CIS11)
- Communications (COM19)
- Control (CS23)
- Electron Devices (ED15)
- Engineering in Medicine and Biology (EMB18)
- Electromagnetic Compatibility (EMC27)
- Electronics Packaging Society (EP, ex-CPMT21)
- Geoscience and Remote Sensing (GRS29)
- Power Electronics – Industry Applications – Industrial Electronics (IA34/IE13/PEL35 Joint Chapter)
- Instrumentation and Measurement (IM09)
- Information Theory (IT12)
- Magnetism (MAG33)
- Microwave Theory and Techniques (MTT17)
- Nuclear and Plasma Sciences (NPS05)
- Oceanic Engineering (OE22)
- Power and Energy (PE31)
- Photonics (PHO36)
- Reliability (R07-RL07)

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- Robotics and Automation (RA24)
  - Sensor Council (SEN)
  - Systems, Man and Cybernetics (SMC28)
  - Signal Processing (SP01)
  - Solid-State Circuits (SSC37)
  - Vehicular Technology (VT06)

List of SB Chapters:

- SBC02881 University of Lille, CAS04
- SBC10034 Inst Supérieur de l'Aéronautique et de l'Espace, NPS05
- SBC10034A Inst Supérieur de l'Aéronautique et de l'Espace, AES10
- SBC10034B Inst Supérieur de l'Aéronautique et de l'Espace, IA34
- SBC11699 Saint Etienne University, NPS05
- SBC12551A Univ de Tech de Belfort-Montbéliard, IA34
- SBC15361A University of Bordeaux, MTT17
- SBC15361B University of Bordeaux, AP03
- SBC15361C University of Bordeaux, CAS04
- SBC15361D University of Bordeaux, IM09
- SBC15361E University of Bordeaux, SSC37
- SBC15361F University of Bordeaux, EMB18
- SBC15361G University of Bordeaux, SP01
- SBC18341A Univ De Franche Comté, UFFC20
- SBC18341B Univ De Franche Comté, RA24
- SBC64381A Univ of Picardie Jules Verne, IA34

A significant number of chapters (22 out of 27) reported on time and received rebates in 2019. Moreover, activity bonuses were awarded to PE31, CIS11 and MAG33.

The Chair of the EMC27 Chapter resigned in 2020. A volunteer applied for the position; elections will be organized as soon as possible.

A total of 96 events were organized by all Chapters in 2020, 18 by SB Chapters. Those numbers are significantly lower than in 2019 due to CoVid lockdown in France.

## Industry

*List the activities carried out to foster relations with Industry and the results obtained.*

The CoVid pandemic restrained industry relations significantly. Nonetheless, the "Journées de l'Industrie 4.0" were organized, and an action in the "Semaine de l'Industrie" is planned in 2021 (date to be confirmed according to sanitary measures).

An agreement with the national sister Society (SEE) was updated and renewed in December for the next three years. That agreement includes mutual rebates for members, as well as joint activities (technical lectures, awards, industrial events).

## Activities since the last report

*Highlight some of the activities in your Section, with special attention to the things that work well, and things that don't, so that your acquired know-how can be used by other Sections.*

An agreement with the national sister Society (SEE) was updated and renewed in December (see industrial activities above).

Long-term sanitary measures have prevented any physical meeting, including the ExCom, which represents a serious issue. As far as networking and human relations are concerned, virtual meetings can never replace face-to-face meetings. Moreover, the CoVid pandemic leads to a significant increase in professional workload.

Nevertheless, the ExCom still manages to deal with daily affairs and reporting.

## Planned activities

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*Highlight some of the future activities and initiatives in your Section.*

The Section is working through the organization of a new Milestone dedicated to Langevin, following the Section's contribution to the Ampère Milestone in 2020.

A call for volunteering awards (Chapter of the Year, SB of the Year, Volunteer of the Year) was launched in February. The corresponding award ceremony will be organized along with the General Assembly scheduled for March 24<sup>th</sup>. A technical lecture (AI for Electrical Systems) will be given following the Assembly.

A new IEEE-labeled event about energy storage (hydrogen and batteries) will be held on April 29<sup>th</sup>.

An overhaul of the Section's Web site is still forecast and expected to be dealt with in 2021 through SB contests. The Section is still looking for volunteering to manage such a project.

### **How Region 8 can be of help to your Section, members, and activities**

*List any challenges your Section is facing and what support is required from the Region 8. Please, also, give us your suggestions for agenda items that you want to be discussed during the R8 Committee meeting.*

What is the return on investment for volunteers? How can we motivate them? What about reduced/free registrations for volunteers who actually take their time to contribute to IEEE activities?

The VP in charge of Conference Activities should receive all requests and process them, in order to alleviate the workload for the Chair and Secretary (who could be only in CC to be informed). That would also improve and accelerate the workflow.

### **Any other issues of interest**

None.

Richard Perdriau  
Secretary, IEEE France Section