

Lithuania Section

Vytautas Urbanavičius

Section Vitality

The elections of the IEEE Lithuania Section Chair and the officers of the ExCom were held in November 2020, the end was scheduled for 1 December. The Section has newly elected ExCom starting with 2021 where the former Vice-Chair and Chair are now new Chair and Vice-Chair accordantly.

The term of office of some officers of the Executive Committee is ending this year, so the next elections will also be organized in November this year.

Meetings of the ExCom of the Section are held regularly, approximately twice every three months. Usually, at the first meeting in a calendar year, the results of the past year are discussed and a plan of activities for the current year is drawn up. Issues related to the support of conferences and seminars organized in Lithuania are discussed at meetings in accordance with the dates of these conferences. Discussion of the problems of cooperation with the industry and other Sections also takes place.

IEEE Lithuania Section has met its recruitment goal for 2021 membership year and was awarded by Silver Award. Unfortunately, the number of the IEEE members this year has slightly decreased in our Section, which, apparently, can be explained by the difficult situation with the pandemic. The quality of our Section membership has improved: we have two new Senior Life members and about ten new Senior members.

Students

There are two IEEE Student Branches in the Lithuania Section: the IEEE SB of Kaunas University of Technology and the IEEE SB of Vilnius Gediminas Technical University. SB activities are very limited due to Covid-19 situation (universities were and are in remote mode). However, there is a potential in cooperation with YP group on activities. All the events are reported and available in vTools.

Affinity Groups

There are two IEEE Affinity Groups in the Lithuania Section: Young Professionals and Women in Engineering. The leaders of these AGs are Eldar Sabanovic and Dovile Kurpyte, respectively. Despite the pandemic, the YP and WiE AGs are very active; most of the events are organized in a virtual way. All the events are reported and available in vTools.

Chapters

The Section has 4 chapters: Computer Society Chapter, Education Society Chapter, AP/ED/MTT Joint Chapter and SP/CIS/COM Joint Chapter. They submitted reports on time and rebates were received by them. All the chapters have been continuing with their traditional activities. There are some difficulties with the cadences of the chairs; the Section is not numerous and therefore it is quite problematic to find candidates for the positions of new leaders of the chapters.

Industry

The Section is constantly intermediaries between local electronic, communication and IT industry and Universities, assisting in the establishment of contacts, such as searching for employees, monitoring of study programs, counseling, organization of internship, etc.

Activities since the last report

This year, the Section supported the holding of four online international conferences: AIEEE-2020 (it was postponed from last fall), eXtream 2021, Electronics 2021 and 2021 IEEE ICTE “Leading Digital Transformation in Business and Society”. A competition for the best master's theses was also organized. We also managed to organize a joint workshop of volunteers with the IEEE Latvia Section.

Planned activities

Next year we plan to continue supporting conferences held in Lithuania; cooperate with the Sections of the Baltic States and Belarus. We also have a plan to form a new Chapter in our Section – Technology and Engineering Management. Great work is to be done to restore the web-portal iee.lt.