

Finland Section

Dmitry Petrov, chair

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 took place in Dec. 2019. Hence, the new elections are already announced and will take place till the end of the year 2021. We do not have the practice of Vice-Chair becoming the next Section chair, all board member officer positions are open for election. So far we have had three section board meetings since the beginning of the year. At least one more board meeting still to follow. We would like to highlight the following events that were arranged specifically for for the members of IEEE Finland Section and got a lot of positive feedback:

- [Automation Days \(AUTOMAATIOPäIVäT\) organized in cooperation with Finnish Society of Automation](#)
- [Side event at IEEE Innovative Smart Grid Technologies ISGT 2021 Europe, Oct 19, 2021](#)

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.

No active student branches but student representatives in the Finland Section Board.

Unfortunately, no face-to-face meetings for students due to Covid situation. However, students were actively involved in all virtual events organized for all Finnish IEEE members. We are planning activities in cooperation with Finnish Automation Society to increase the communication between students and those already graduated working in industry.

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.

We have a very active young professionals affinity group in Finland and young professionals representative in the Finland Section Board.

Unfortunately, no face-to-face meetings for young professionals took place due to Covid situation. However, young professionals were actively involved in all virtual events organized for all Finnish IEEE members. We are planning further activities in cooperation with Finnish Automation Society to increase the communication between students and the graduates working in industry. Hopefully, those activities can be organized by the end of 2021.

One member of IEEE Finland Section board graduated from IEEE Volunteer Leadership Training Program.

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.

- IEEE Finland Joint Chapter of Control System Society, Robotics and Automation Society and System, Man and Cybernetics Society (IEEE Finland CSS/RAS/SMCS Joint Chapter)
 - Ethics for autonomous robots in military and law enforcement
- Finland Section Jt. Chapter of Signal Processing/Circuits and Systems (SP01/CAS04 Joint chapter)
 - Webinar by Dr. Pol del Aguila Pla: REMOTE AND INTERACTIVE IMAGE PROCESSING PROGRAMMING LABORATORIES WITH JUPYTER (30 Jun 2021)
 - THE SPS SEASONAL SCHOOL ON SIGNAL PROCESSING AND COMMUNICATION SYSTEMS FOR 5G (13-17 Sept 2021)

- Dr. Kiran Gunnam - LDPC Based Advanced Error Correction Coding and 5G
 - Dr. Chris Dick - GPU Acceleration for 5G Signal Processing and Machine Learning
 - Dr. Seong Hwan Kim - Building Low Latency and Low Power SmartCity Applications
 - Mr. Ashok Kumar Reddy Chavva - Machine Learning for Next Generation Wireless Communication Systems 5G/6G
 - Rebate: Yes
- IEEE Nordic Countries Nanotechnology Council Chapter (Finland, Sweden, Denmark, Norway Jt Sec. Chap, NANO42) (formed Nov 2020)
 - IEEE Nordic Countries Nanotechnology Chapter 2020 Webinar, 17.12.2020
 - Young Professionals - Meet the experts, event at the NAP conference, 06.09.2021
 - Rebate: No (newly formed so not enough meetings held during 2020)
- CH08037 - Finland Section Jt. Chapter, AP03/ED15/MTT17
 - Distinguished Lecturer, Dr. Jon Martens from Anritsu America - What is my Measurement Equipment Actually Doing? Implications for 5G (March 26th 2021 & April 14th 2021)
 - Rebate: Yes
- IEEE Finland Joint IES&PES Chapter (IE13/PE31/IA34/PEL35)
 - SEMINAR ON GRID CODE BY WORLD-CLASS EXPERTS FROM FINNGRID AND ABB (21 April 2021)
 - SUMMER COURSE AT AALTO UNIVERSITY ON RELIABILITY ASSESSMENT IN THE ELECTRIC POWER SYSTEMS BY PROF. MAHMUD FOTUHI-FIRUZABAD (23 Aug 2021)
- IEEE Finland Section Communications and Information Theory Joint Societies Chapter (IEEE Finland Section Jt. Chapter, COM19/IT12)
- Electronics Packaging Society, Nordics Chapter (EP21)

Industry

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

Unfortunately, the company visits were not possible during 2021 due to Covid situation. We had a discussion about virtual tours but these were not organized by companies. New company visits are being organized in the spring 2022 as the Covid situation improves.

In addition to that two events are planned till the end of the year:

- [IEEE@Siemens 2021: Nordic Smart Cities – Towards Carbon Neutrality](#)
- Standardization Webinar - the goal is to introduce Standardization practices to our members.

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.

The following types of activities, in our opinion, are the most attractive and we can recommend those to the other sections:

- Organization of side events with large conferences where local IEEE members and conference participants can exchange information and establish new connections
- Cooperation with other local professional societies
- Awarding students and young professionals, e.g., with awards for the best papers

In this respects, we would like to give the concrete examples of such activities that took place in our Section:

- [Automation Days \(AUTOMAATIOPäIVäT\) organized in cooperation with Finnish Society of Automation](#)
- [Side event at IEEE Innovative Smart Grid Technologies ISGT 2021 Europe, Oct 19, 2021](#)
- [IEEE Finland Section Best Student Paper Award 2020](#)

Additionally, we saw a lot of interest in longer professional events organized for the students. For example, The Seasonal School on Signal Processing and Communication Systems for 5G got a lot of participants.

Planned activities

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

IEEE @Siemens 3-day webinar will be organized a second time in November. The first time it was only for professionals located in Finland but now also colleagues from other Nordic countries and Baltic are welcomed. The webinar includes the presentations related to energy transition towards a carbon neutral world including e.g. effect of renewables to distribution grid design, electric vehicles and new IoT devices. The speakers are both from industry and academia and there is time for questions and comments also from the audience.

Standardization Webinar will be organized for the first time in November 2021. The idea is to provide to our members information on how the Standardization works in practice.

The new round of the **Best IEEE Finland Section Student Paper Award 2021** is also planned for the end of the year.

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 Region 8. Please, also, give us your suggestions for agenda items that you want to be discussed during the R8 Committee meeting.

How to increase the number of IEEE members? What are the main reasons to be an IEEE member? How to improve efficient membership marketing during events and in social media? How to get more people interested in IEEE activities and get people interested in IEEE?

It would be nice to have stronger cooperation between young professionals of other countries as during Covid time, all of us are used to virtual tools. Is there any possibility to discuss with young professionals from other countries: invite them to join local virtual events, get ideas for new happenings, share best practises how to motivate people to join and how to be active in social media.

What does the industry activities mean in practise? Company visits are easy to organize but what else should the strong relationship with industry include? What is the advantage for industry to be active in IEEE? Can we share best practises from other countries somewhere?

Any other issues of interest