

Region 8 Director**Antonio Luque**

TO: IEEE Region 8 Committee, April 2022
FROM: Antonio Luque, Region 8 Director
SUBJECT: Director Report

1. Introduction

In the last part of 2021 and beginning of 2022 some return to normal activities took place all over the Region, although interrupted by pandemic waves. The expectation is that the situation will improve as the year progresses and most of the upcoming activities can be organized in person as planned.

The year 2022 should see the return to an in-person Students and Young Professional congress (SYP) in Tunisia next August. Also conferences Energycon and Melecon will take place in Riga and Palermo, respectively.

Membership is slowly recovering, mainly thanks to the recruitment of students. Retention of these students will be a challenge, as well as the recruitment of higher-grade members so that we can have positive growth in that segment too.

We also expect to resume the awards presentations and get rid of the backlog in awards caused by the pandemic years.

During 2022 there will be a zone representative from Africa and Middle East at the MGA Board meetings as a pilot program, oriented towards ensuring a better representation of members from large Regions.

A new R8 AdHoc committee has been formed in 2022 on Entrepreneurship, to benefit from the experience that a similar team has gained in the last years. The other 2021 AdHocs will continue in 2022.

Finally, Bylaws and Operations Manual were in need of a significant upgrade to take into account changes in our procedures and a proposal for revision will be presented to the R8 Committee for approval.

2. OpCom meeting January 2022

Region 8 OpCom had a hybrid meeting in Vilnius, Lithuania, on 22-23 January 2022.

The full agenda of the OpCom meeting included discussions on the 2022 budget, awards and recognitions, volunteer training, Warsaw meeting, conferences, formation of new units, entrepreneurship, governing documents, and new initiatives, among other issues.

3. Recent recognitions to members and volunteers in R82022 IEEE Medals and Awards

IEEE FRANCES E. ALLEN MEDAL, to Co-Recipients

EUGENE W. MYERS (SMIEEE)—Director, Max Planck Institute of Molecular Cell Biology and Genetics (MPI-CBG) and Founding Director, Center for Systems Biology Dresden (CSBD), Dresden, Germany, AND

WEBB MILLER (non-member)—Professor, Department of Biology, The Pennsylvania State University, State College, Pennsylvania, USA

IEEE/RSE JAMES CLERK MAXWELL MEDAL, to INGO WOLFF (LFIEEE)—Research Director, IMST, Kamp-Lintfort, Germany

MGA Awards

Organizational support Friend of MGA award to

College of Information Technology, University of Bahrain, and
GSSS Institute of Engineering and Technology for Women

For outstanding contributions in promoting the IEEE Bahrain Section, and technically sponsoring and hosting IEEE events

4. Milestone ceremonies in R8

The dedication ceremony for the milestone “Giovanni Giorgi's Contribution to the Rationalized System of Units, 1901-1902” took place in Rome, Italy Section, and remotely on 15 December 2021.

Dedication ceremonies are planned for the following milestones:

“String Galvanometer for Human Electrocardiogram, 1901-1905”, Leiden, Netherlands, 8 April 2022

“Active Shielding of Superconducting Magnets”, Eynsham, United Kingdom, 16-17 June 2022

“Manchester University “Baby” Computer and its Derivatives, 1948-1951”, Manchester, United Kingdom, 20-21 June 2022

“Atlas Computer and Virtual Memory”, Manchester, United Kingdom, 20-21 June 2022

5. Region Realignment

At the February 2022 meeting, the MGA Board approved establishing a pilot to add participation at the MGA Board of two additional attendees, one from Region 8 and one from Region 10, to attend the June and November MGA Board Meetings in 2022.

The pilot will be in place until governance documents for zone implementation are approved, unless decided otherwise by the MGA Board.

The Region Realignment Ad Hoc will continue working with the goal of making proposed changes to governance documents implementing zones in 2022.

6. Region 8 Membership Data at the end of February 2022

As of 28 February 2022, Region 8 membership included 55,489 members. One year earlier (28 February 2021) membership was 52,836 (5.02% increase).

Distribution of membership by grade is as follows:

	Feb 2022	Feb 2021	Change	
Associate	442	5774	-135	-23.40 %
Fellow	913	889	24	2.70 %
GSM	8164	7574	590	7.79 %
Honorary	10	10	0	0 %
Life Fellow	442	417	26	6.00 %
Life Member	1455	1342	113	8.42 %
Life Senior	770	714	56	7.84 %
Member	25161	25757	-596	-2.31 %
Senior Member	8819	8535	284	3.33 %
Student Member	9313	7021	2292	32.64 %

Respectfully submitted,
Antonio Luque
Director, IEEE Region 8