Region 8 News   Cátia Bandeiras

Goals

1. To establish the presence of IEEE Region 8 News with a fresh outlook, and provide a concise newsletter of key relevant events, news and milestones of IEEE members in Region 8 and upcoming events.

2. Aiming for 4 issues (March, June, September, December) in 2022. One (1) issue published already in 2022.

3. Aiming for 50% of content coming from members directly and being managed by the Editors of the Publications and Communications Subcommittee in tandem for publishing.

4. Achieve the number of printed + electronic copies/issue in line with the preferences of the members for the Spectrum file, with the benchmark from the March 2022 issue of 24,000 copies/issue.

Progress against goals since the last report

- December 2021 issue published (24 pages), distributed in print to approximately 24,000 members + electronic distribution. Design collaboration from Social Media EiC and IEEE Publishing. Fast turnaround time and deadline flexibility from IEEE Publishing allowed to have the reporting from the 117th IEEE Region 8 Committee Meeting as the opening news piece.

- March 2022 issue published electronically on 15 March 2022 (16 pages), distributed in print to approximately 24,000 members + 150 copies to distribute in the 118th IEEE Region 8 Committee Meeting in Warsaw. Copies should arrive in Warsaw by 25 March 2022. Design collaboration from Social Media EiC and IEEE Publishing. A delay of two weeks in the electronic distribution was due to increased lag times in response from IEEE Publishing + appointment of new design PoC in IEEE Publishing (Paul DeSesso).

- New 2022 EiC (Vinko Lešić) appointed in late February 2022 to replace Cátia Bandeiras, who had asked to be replaced due to being unable to devote enough capacity to continue as EiC. Cátia & Vinko will co-coordinate the June 2022 issue to ensure a smooth handover of processes and continuity of quality issues.

- Region 8 Sigma was terminated as a stand-alone publication and will, from now on, be included as a technical section in Region 8 News. Region 8 Sigma editors Christopher James & Maja Matijasevic were appointed to the Region 8 News editorial board as will be included in the development of the June 2022 issue.

Points of Concern

Low number of member content submissions until February 2022 for the March 2022 issue caused it to be a bit heavier on Conferences and Future Events content than usual. We believe this was related to the holiday season across multiple locations in the Region. To promote further the newsletter in the Spring Meeting and via email to Sections to have more stories from members for the June 2022 issue. The current world events also call for increased vigilance on content submissions and editorial revision so that all content published on IEEE Region 8 News is sensitive to the current humanitarian challenges and adheres to the IEEE mission and values.

Proposals for improvements/Other Issues to report

- Use eNotice content, at least for conferences and upcoming events. Have R8News more publicized at the R8 Meeting

- Facilitating transition to new 2022 team when new EiC and AEs, with guidance from the OpCom and PnC Chair.

- Assign tasks and roles within team for more effective proofreading during the design process of the Newsletter.

- Have content revision in the final document only (not the Word draft), to avoid missing content in transition to PDF template.

- To report back on the IEEE Panel of Editors Meeting (late April 2022 – Cátia was invited, Vinko will be issued an invitation as the new EiC).

- Have design managed by IEEE Publishing to reduce the burden on volunteers for design tasks – some level of support to the InDesign template was achieved so far