

Iceland Section

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Section Vitality

Last election was held in February 2019. New board was appointed in January 2021. We anticipate holding elections in the fall 2022. We do have the practice of Vice-Chair becoming the next Section Chair, but that is not required. Very few activities have been carried out in the section to retain and recruit members during the past year mostly due to strict COVID restrictions.

We managed to hold two in-person ex-com meetings in 2021. One in March and one in June. On the March meeting we draw up an action plan to review the student chapter and plan technical meetings. Since the June meeting the ex-com has held numerous telephone meetings due to COVID restrictions.

Students

There is one student branch in Iceland. As far as we now, the student chapter has not held any meetings since fall 2019. The last chair of the student section has moved abroad without holding elections. History repeats itself repeatedly. The section jump starts the student chapter with some start-up money. Students hold one or two meetings over the year and leave their post once they graduate and move on with their live.

In the ex-com June meeting group of students was invited to re-establish the student branch.

Affinity Groups

There are no affinity groups in the Iceland Section, but potential to form at least YP.

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.

Chapters

The only active chapter in the section is the Signal chapter. However, there is a potential to start chapters in for example GRSS, Power, Robotics, Communication, and Computer fields.

Industry

None for the past year.

Activities since the last report

Our section has been dormant for some time due to lack of leadership and the pandemic. In December 2020 three former chairs stepped up to revive the section. Since the last report we have pulled together an ExCom of former volunteers and held several zoom meetings to get organized. Due to the pandemic the first in person meeting was held in March 2021. We re-established the student branch in June 2021 and planned with them activities for the fall. In the fall new covid restrictions prevented the activities.

Planned activities

Again, we will need to revive the student branch this spring since most of the board members are graduating and leaving school. We have also planned to hold student membership drive for the fall cohort, but this must be coordinated with the student branch.

Since February 25th all covid restrictions in Iceland have been lifted!

1. 23rd – 26th of May: Host a workshop with Croatian research group ORKAN.
2. 29th – 2nd June: Host summer school organized with HDCRS working group [1] of the IEEE GRSS ESI Technical Committee.
3. 6th – 7th July: Local organization and hosting for “IEEE 10th Jubilee International Conference on Computational Cybernetics and Cyber-Medical Systems (ICCC 2022)” held by the Hungary section.

We really hope that the summer school with GRSS will lead to the establishment of a GRSS chapter in Iceland.

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

We firmly believe the Iceland section will recover this year. Region 8 will most likely be dealing with the pandemic for the remainder of the year 2021. We would like to suggest to the region to identify speakers and possibly assist sections in the region to hold technical meetings on-line, such that they will count towards the technical meeting requirements of the sections.

Any other issues of interest