Hungary Section

Levente Kovács, PhD

Section Vitality
From the last elections, only after one year, the elected section chair, Tamas Haidegger had to resume due to personal problems. Due to the situation caused Levente Kovacs was reelected. We continued to award the Rudolf Kalman professor title created in 2017 along with other deliverable honors postponed from last year. After COVID the IEEE HS based conferences started to be held face-to-face again, starting with the jubilee event of the IEEE SAMI in Poprad, Slovakia, the IEEE SACI in Timisoara, Romania, IEEE INES in Reykjavik, Iceland, IEEE ICC in Crete, Greece, and the just recently finished IEEE SISY in Subotica, Serbia. The participation at all of them was more then expected, revealing the importance of networking and face-to-face debates. Chapter are co-sponsors of our IEEE HS based conferences, where the IEEE SMC, CS and RAS have a great activity.

Students
We are still maintaining the reduced registration fees for students and YP at our IEEE HS conferences. We awarded talented students at the national computer engineering student competition (biannual Hungarian National Student Conference), postponed to 2021.
Two other Student branches were formed at Debrecen University and Budapest University of Technology and Economics and several others are under formation at Obuda University.
The Best Student Paper award turned to be a great success in 2021 as well on all three categories: BSc, MSc and PhD. Our own IEEE HS conferences organized PhD sections involving PhD students from different universities. We organize for students and pre-university (high school) students STEM oriented presentations across the country.

Affinity Groups
No new affinity group to report, the IEEE HS WiE Affinity Group is under re-formation. The general activity has been low, especially at the YP level, but is increasing after COVID and formation of new Student Branches.

Chapters
The number of chapters did not change (11), but no major activity during 2021 and 2022 spring. However, Chapters life is awakening, with a good opportunity during the upcoming IEEE HS 35th year jubilee event in 2022 October.

Industry
The industry reach-out efforts are channeling in a lot of new partnerships. IEEE SMC supported MassVentil project (as community development effort hosted by Obuda University) was licensed to a national med tech company.

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
N/A

Activities since the last report
Despite the coronavirus, most of the professional activities continued successfully. SAMI 2022, the 20th jubilee IEEE World Symposium on Applied Machine Intelligence and Informatics event in Poprad, Slovakia was a great success, but the other, again face-to-face conferences as well:
- SACI 2022, 16th IEEE International Symposium on Applied Computational Intelligence and Informatics, Timisoara, Romania.
- ICCC 2020, 10th Jubilee IEEE International Conference on Computational Cybernetics and Cyber-Medical Systems, Reykjavik, Iceland.
- INES 2022, 26th IEEE International Conference on Intelligent Engineering Systems, Crete, Greece.
- SISY 2022, 20th IEEE International Symposium on Intelligent Systems and Informatics, Subotica, Serbia.

Planned activities
The Hungary Section is committed to continue its conference series: in 2022 the CINTI and CANDO EPE, while in 2023 continuing with the SAMI, SACI, INES, SISY, INES conferences. The IEEE HS 35th year jubilee event in 2022 October is planned as well including under its celebration the first IEEE HS Milestone event postponed due to COVID. We are transforming our joint (with Obuda University) IF peer reviewed Q2 journal, the Acta Polytechnica Hungarica to a Plan S compatible OA journal.

How Region 8 can be of help to your Section, members, and activities
Keep up the strong support for the local Sections! Provide best practices on the remote life. Support membership retention.

Any other issues of interest
Post-COVID world should see the renewal of all professional activities, but it in our experience it is not an easy re-start (although the waiting is high).