

Lithuania Section

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Section Vitality

The elections of Lithuania Section officers of the ExCom were held in November 2021, the end was scheduled for 1 December. The Section has newly elected ExCom starting with 2022. The term of office of the current Section Chair and some officers of ExCom expires this year, so the next elections will also be organized in November this year. This is my last term as Section Chair (I've been Chair for 6 years already), so in the future I can only be Vice Chair and I already have such practice.

Meetings of the ExCom of the Section are held regularly, approximately twice every three months. Usually, at the first meeting in a calendar year, the results of the past year are discussed and a plan of activities for the current year is drawn up. Issues related to the support of conferences and workshops organized in Lithuania are discussed at meetings in accordance with the dates of these conferences. Discussion of the problems of cooperation with the industry and other Sections also takes place.

Lithuania Section has met its recruitment goal for 2021 membership year and was awarded by Silver Award. Unfortunately, the number of the IEEE members this year has slightly decreased in our Section, which, apparently, can be explained by the difficult situation with the pandemic, but in general it is difficult to find an explanation.

Students

There are two IEEE Student Branches in the Lithuania Section: the IEEE SB of Kaunas University of Technology and the IEEE SB of Vilnius Gediminas Technical University. SB activities were very limited due to Covid-19 situation (universities during the 2021-2022 academic year worked remotely.). However, there is a potential in cooperation with YP group on activities. Currently, the possibility of forming the SB at Vilnius University is also being investigated.

Affinity Groups

There are two IEEE Affinity Groups in the Lithuania Section: Young Professionals and Women in Engineering. The leaders of these AGs are Eldar Sabanovic and Dovile Kurpyte, respectively. Despite the pandemic, the YP and WiE AGs are very active; most of the events are organized in a virtual way. There are three life members in the Section, so it is possible to create an IEEE Life Members AG with us and the ExCom is active for this. All the events are reported and available in vTools.

Chapters

There are four chapters in our Section: Computer Society Chapter, Education Society Chapter, AP/ED/MTT Joint Chapter and SP/CIS/COM Joint Chapter. They submitted reports on time and rebates were received by them. All the chapters have been continuing with their traditional activities. One can note the activity of the AP/ED/MTT Joint Chapter, which, together with the Latvia Section, organizes a joint workshop in this October. There are some difficulties with the cadences of the chairs; the Section is not numerous and therefore it is quite problematic to find candidates for the positions of new leaders of the chapters.

Industry

The Section is constantly intermediaries between local electronic, communication and IT industry and Universities, assisting in the establishment of contacts, such as searching for employees, monitoring of study programs, counseling, organization of internship, etc. Industry representatives are also invited and participate in all events organized by the Section and our Chapters.

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

There is indeed diversity in the Section: about 15% of the members are women, 3% are Life members, and 18% are students and doctoral students. The national composition of the Section is also diverse - the majority, of course, Lithuanians, but in addition, there are Poles, Jews, Russians, Belarusians and representatives of other national minorities. There are no restrictions on national, religious or other grounds in the Section; for example, among the members of the ExCom, in addition to Lithuanians, there are also Jews, Russians, Tatars.

Activities since the last report

Among the successful activities that took place in the Section, two joint workshops of the Lithuania and Latvia Sections in May and early September can be noted. The first steps have been taken to establish cooperation with the Estonia Section. In May and June, a competition for the title of Best Master's Theses was organized. The Section found an opportunity to send our representative to the IEEE Region 8 Student and Young Professional Congress 2022 in Tunisia. As our problem, we can note the incompletely restored website of our section, because of which the members of the Section are not always able to find out news about events in time and communicate for the time being through Facebook

Planned activities

The first task of the Section is to adequately organize IEEE DAY 2022; next, students must be called to participate in the IEEEExtreme Programming Competition; and properly prepare and hold elections of a new Section Chair and Chairs of some chapters. Of course, we will not forget to remind the members of the Section about renewing the membership of the IEEE and attracting new members, especially students.

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

The leadership of the Region 8 (director, secretary, treasurer, etc.) performs its functions punctually: informs about all events in the Region in time, answers all questions without delay and effectively helps to solve the problems arising in the Section.