

Vice-Chair Technical Activities

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version 1. / Update is expected closer to the meeting

Goals

1. Planned activities, cooperation between committees, operation manuals
2. Recognized committee chairs
3. International contacts
4. Running the programs

Status

We organized regular (bi-) **monthly conference calls** with subcommittee chairs, to overview the most important tasks, to-dos. In conjunction to IEEE EnergyCon Riga, Latvia in May, we organized an **in-person TA chairs' meeting** and another one in conjunction to Student and Young Professional Congress in Tunis, Tunisia in August. *Marios Antoniou* helped in the preparation and follow-up the tasks. Probably in the future we can't organize in-person chairs meeting, other than during Spring Region 8 meeting, due budget limitation.

The **TA committees increased the cooperation** with Member Activities and Student Activities committees in Region 8, so in that point I'm almost satisfied. Of course, it can be increased and the strategic retreat in September was a good tool for that.

The **Operation Manuals** are in good starting shape, thanks for the committee chairs and Antonio Luque's personal involvement.

All 5 committee chairs are **Senior members** already, as for the last John Matogo was elevated recently and received a Senior Member pin at the meeting during SYP.

In May we decided to work more at **inter regional level**. The work has been started; individual committees established relation with other IEEE Regions. There is still space for improvement.

In technical activities field we have several programs, which are running during the year. It is challenging to identify volunteers to coordinate those tasks. Comparing with other regions **we are in good shape**, but in details we need more people involved to run these programs and avoid good volunteers to burn-out early.

Highlighted committee activities

Conference coordination: In-person Conference Training in conjunction with IEEE Melecon in Palermo, Italy, organized RTSI conference in August in Paris, France, bring the steering committee into operation, increased Technical Co-Sponsorship fee from 1st January (charging the 100% TCS related expense to conferences, previously 33% was covered in IEEE overhead)

Chapter coordination: Chapter methodological talks at EnergyCon and at SYP, Best Chapter Awards, Establish the regular Chapter panorama online event – next in Q4

Professional and Educational Activities: Local Language Program Ambassadors in Q4, Robot Championship 3-4 December 2022 in Malta, 6 preparatory workshops (robot building, industry support, branding, STEM activities preparation, team management, rules and regulations), Acceleration Contest 2022, Speakers Program, Entrepreneurship week, Education Activities Board cooperation

Action for Industry: organized a panel session at RTSI, regular quarterly online Industry Ambassadors' meetings, in-person Industry Ambassadors Training is coming in Q4

Standards: organizing a panel at RTSI and bringing Standards speakers to IEEE events

Upcoming major task is the preparation for **having a proper handover**. During nomination period I received several questions from potential Vice-Chair candidates, regarding the workload, the possible goals for the near future. The Operation Manuals will help to understand the committee members roles, the expected experience. With the committee chairs we identified volunteers for committee members for the next term, including potential corresponding members, committee members and chairs. If you are interested, send me an e-mail with your credentials, initial plans and I can forward to the next leadership team.

Continuous challenge is the **tracking the pending tasks, to-dos**. Nowadays the good volunteers are overloaded with other duties (company, IEEE and other roles). Hard to find a good balance to request to complete the volunteer duties on time and not being a "bad boss" to always reminding the missing results.

Outlook

I was not fully satisfied with my results regarding Cooperation with other regions. We had committee level cooperation but not at the Region leadership level and not with all other 9 regions. The cooperation with Region 10 and Region 9 were the best. In practice I realized that supporting and coordination of the 5 committees took more energy than I expected at the beginning.

There will be a Volunteer Leadership Training organized in early 2023. It will a joint effort from Membership Development team and Chapter Coordination. Dates and location will be announced later.

Points of Concern

Identifying enough experienced volunteers for next term.

Ensure continuity.

Not letting people to burn-out to be able to continue.

Reducing the budget for programs, due lower revenue for next year.

Other Issues to report

none

Other IEEE Activities

I was member in 2022 in MGA IT Coordination and Oversight committee.

I'm volunteer lead for National Society Agreements program. The main goal is establishing a local fruitful cooperation between the Section and the National Society.

I'm volunteering for IEEE Communications Society's flagship conference IEEE GLOBECOM 2024, which will be organized in Cape Town, South Africa in December 2024. My duty is managing the budget preparation and follow-up the expenses, revenues.