

France Section

Richard Perdriau, Secretary

Section Vitality

An official Board meeting was held on September 17 (virtually). A General Assembly was organized on February 8; the next one will be held on December 3 (both in Paris).

On December 7, 2023, the Section gathered 3884 members. Compared with December 31, 2022 (3563 members), this is a significant increase. More specifically, this increase is mainly due to Members (2079 vs. 1931), Associate Members (147 vs. 89) and Life Members (92 vs. 67 excluding Life Senior and Life Fellows). It is very likely that some new members do not fill in their profile properly and, therefore, are accounted for Associate Members instead of Members; the Section will contact them. The same rule may apply to Student Members which could have been accounted for Graduate Student Members if they had filled in their educational background correctly.

The current number is 3591 members as of October 1, 2024 (within the renewal period).

New elections for the Section were held from October 30 to November 30, 2022. As France Section is concerned, both the Section Chair and Vice-Chair are elected (the Vice-Chair does not implicitly become the next Chair). Six positions (provided below) were renewed:

- Chair: René Garelo
- Vice-Chair: Maria Trocan
- Treasurer: Jaafar Gaber
- Secretary: Richard Perdriau (re-elected)
- Officer for Conferences and Workshops: François Rivet
- Officer for Member Technical Activities: Serge dos Santos

These results were announced on December 1, 2022, and formally validated by the General Assembly on December 20, 2022.

According to the Section's statutes, another position (Officer for WiE activities) must be included in the Section's ComEx. Following the reactivation of the Section's WiE Affinity Group, its acting Chair (Florence Sèdes) was officially elected to that position in November 2023.

Still according to the Section's statutes, the Section's ComEx must include a Student Representative. A call for volunteers was launched, leading to only one candidate (Johan Boukhenfouf). The candidate was appointed to the position by the General Assembly on February 8, 2024.

Moreover, according to the Section's standing orders, 3 Chapter Chairs are voting members of the Section's Board. The 3 candidates (Mohammed Chadli – CS23, Sihem Mesnager – IT12, Smail Tedjini – AP03) to these positions were consequently appointed by the General Assembly on February 8, 2024.

14 conference technical sponsorship requests were filed for 2024, and 13 were accepted (12 in 2023). 11 have already been filed for 2025 (9 accepted).

Students

Active Student Branches:

- STB02881 University of Lille
- STB05391 Sorbonne University
- STB06661 Institut Sup Electronique de Paris
- STB08231 Telecom Paris
- STB08421 University of Reims Champagne-Ardenne
- STB09711 Grenoble Alpes University
- STB10034 Inst Supérieur de l'Aéronautique et de l'Espace
- STB11699 Jean Monnet University
- STB12551 Univ de Tech de Belfort-Montbéliard (**reactivated in 2024**)
- STB15361 University of Bordeaux
- STB17521 Université de Limoges
- STB18341 Univ de Franche Comté
- STB62561 IMT-Atlantique
- STB64264 Ecole CentraleSupélec
- STB64630 Ecole Polytechnique (Paris)
- STB65921 Institut Mines-Telecom – TelecomSudParis

- STB66001 Eurecom Institut
- STB99741 University of Toulouse
- STB60108042 INSA Centre Val de Loire

Student Branches with no recent declared activity:

- STB64381 University of Picardie Jules Verne
- STB99801 Ecole Sup D'Elec de l'Ouest

A new Student Branch is under creation at ENSIM Le Mans.

8 Student Branches received rebates in 2023 (11 in 2022). 30 events were declared up to October 1, 2024 (excluding the events specifically organized by SB Chapters).

Among noticeable events are: a meeting with Egypt and Tunisia Student Branches, a Student and YP Session in the Baltic Electronics Conference (BEC), a participation to the SYP 2024 Conference in Grenoble.

Affinity Groups

List of Affinity Groups:

- LM80005 Life Members
- WE80005 Women in Engineering
- YP80005 Young Professionals

List of SB Affinity Groups:

- SBA02881 University of Lille, WiE

LM: 4 events were declared in 2024 (up to October 1), including two conferences ('Modeling and Uses of the Concept of Consciousness' by G. Sabah, 'The Origins of AI' by M. Najim).

WiE: the Group has become active again since Florence Sèdes' election as Chair in November 2023, organizing joint events with the YP Affinity Group and Student Branches for a total number of 3 declared events in 2024 (up to October 1). A remote meeting of the AG was organized on February 8, 2024 (after the Section's General Assembly). The WiE ExCom forecasts transversal events with Chapters, particularly with those with female Chairs.

YP: 8 events were declared in 2024 (up to October 1), including participations to R8 SYP in Grenoble (France), the 9th International Youth Conference on Energy (IYCE) in Colmar (France), the Student Branch Day in ISEP, Paris (France). New elections took place in 2024. The new Chair is Emna Amri.

Chapters

List of Chapters:

- Aerospace and Electronic Systems (AES10)
- Antennas and Propagation (AP03)
- Computer (C16)
- Circuits and Systems (CAS04)
- Computational Intelligence (CIS11)
- Communications (COM19)
- Control (CS23)
- Electron Devices (ED15)
- Engineering in Medicine and Biology (EMB18)
- Electromagnetic Compatibility (EMC27)
- Electronics Packaging Society (EP21)
- Geoscience and Remote Sensing (GRS29)
- Industry Applications – Industrial Electronics – Power Electronics (IA34/IE13/PEL35 Joint Chapter)
- Instrumentation and Measurement (IM09)
- Information Theory (IT12)
- Magnetism (MAG33)
- Microwave Theory and Technology (MTT17)
- Nuclear and Plasma Sciences (NPS05)
- Oceanic Engineering (OE22)

- Power and Energy (PE31)
- Photonics (PHO36)
- Reliability (RL07)
- Robotics and Automation (RA24)
- Sensors (SEN39)
- Systems, Man and Cybernetics (SMC28)
- Signal Processing (SP01)
- Solid-State Circuits (SSC37)
- Ultrasonics, Ferroelectrics and Frequency Control (UFFC20) – **new in 2024**
- Vehicular Technology (VT06)

List of SB Chapters:

- SBC02881 University of Lille, CAS04
- SBC02881A University of Lille, SSC37
- SBC02881B University of Lille, CIS11
- SBC09711 Grenoble Alpes University, MTT17
- SBC09711A Grenoble Alpes University, CAS04 (**new in 2024**)
- SBC10034 Inst Supérieur de l'Aéronautique et de l'Espace, NPS05
- SBC10034A Inst Supérieur de l'Aéronautique et de l'Espace, AES10
- SBC10034B Inst Supérieur de l'Aéronautique et de l'Espace, IA34
- SBC11699 Jean Monnet University, NPS05
- SBC12551A Univ de Tech de Belfort-Montbéliard, IA34
- SBC15361A University of Bordeaux, MTT17
- SBC15361B University of Bordeaux, AP03
- SBC15361C University of Bordeaux, CAS04
- SBC15361D University of Bordeaux, IM09
- SBC15361E University of Bordeaux, SSC37
- SBC15361F University of Bordeaux, EMB18
- SBC15361G University of Bordeaux, SP01
- SBC15361H University of Bordeaux, AES10
- SBC18341A Univ De Franche Comté, UFFC20
- SBC18341B Univ De Franche Comté, RA24
- SBC64381A Univ of Picardie Jules Verne, IA34

16 Chapters (out of 27) reported on time and received rebates in 2023. Moreover, activity bonuses were awarded to CIS11, MAG33, SMC28 and SSC37.

Up to October 1, a total of 55 events were declared by all Chapters in 2024 (89 in the whole 2023 year), 17 by SB Chapters (9 in 2023).

A new Chapter (UFFC20) was created in March 2024. Serge Dos Santos is currently the UFFC20 interim Chair until new elections have been organized.

A petition has just been submitted and endorsed for the creation of an Intelligent Transportation Systems Chapter.

A project for the creation of a French Chapter of the Systems Council is underway.

A new CAS Student Branch Chapter was created in Grenoble Alpes University in June 2024.

Following the sudden passing away of the C16 Chapter Chair in 2022, no other ExCom member could be reached out for his succession until the end of 2023. Elections were subsequently launched on February 26, 2024. The new C16 Chair is Arthur Vervaeet.

New Chapter elections took place for AP03 (Chair: Smail Tedjini), IM09 (Chair: Slavisa Jovanovic), PE31 (Chair: Gabriel Bareux), PHO26 (Chair: Frédéric Grillot), and RL07 (Chair: Hichame Maanane).

A meeting of Chapter Chairs (plus the Section ExCom and volunteers) will be organized in Paris on October 23. The matter of bi-annual workshops on IEEE cross-disciplinary topics will then be discussed, along with their interaction with Action for Industry.

Industry

The Section participated to the RTSI 2024 Conference in Lecco (Italy) on September 18-19, through Frédérique Vallée (Steering Committee) and Serge Dos Santos (Industry Events Committee).

The Action for Industry Committee was involved in the SYP 2024 Congress in Grenoble.

A workshop on industrial involvement in European projects is planned for the IEEE-MTS OCEANS 2025 conference in Brest.

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

Please note that all statistics based on race, religion and sexual orientation are strictly forbidden in France.

13.76 % of Section members are women (and another 14.37 % did not indicate any gender).

The current Section ExCom includes 2 women (out of 8). 4 Chapter Chairs (CAS04, IT12, SMC28 and SSC37), plus the LM Affinity Group Chair, the WiE Affinity Group Chair and Vice-Chair, and the Young Professionals Affinity Group Chair, are women. 1 SB Chair (University of Toulouse) and 2 SB Vice-Chairs (INSA Centre Val de Loire and Jean Monnet University) are women.

Activities since the last report

The creation of new Chapters is working really well in the Section in 2024: UFFC has already been created, ITS is ongoing, Systems is planned.

Young Professionals are being more and more involved in Chapter Boards, including Chapter Chairs (C16).

The cooperation between Student Branches and Young Professionals is becoming more and more intricate, with the co-organization of several events and joint participations in conferences (SYP, Baltic Electronics Conference...).

Planned activities

The overhaul of the Section's Web site will continue, with the inclusion of specific Chapter and Affinity Group pages, news, and an automated feed from vTools Events to an online event calendar.

An application will be filed for 3 other Milestones (Micral N – the first commercial personal computer, invention of turbo-codes by Claude Berrou and Alain Glavieux, and General Gustave Ferrié – wireless telegraph) in France.

The Section will continue its active support to conferences (9 accepted for 2025 up to October 1).

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

No particular request.

Any other issues of interest

None.