

Sweden Section

Andrei Gurtov (Chair)

Section Vitality

We held the Annual General Meeting (AGM) in a hybrid format (online and in Linköping University) in March 2024. The signed minutes and other reports are available on our web site <https://r8.ieee.org/sweden/archive/>.

Traditionally, the Vice-Chair takes over the Chair role in Sweden section, but it also depends on the results from the voting. For 2024, the Chair is continuing, and we have a Vice-Chair (Dr. Qinghua Wang). The Vice-Chair needs training before he can take over the Chair role. The Nomination and Appointment Committee collected feedback and volunteers for Board positions for 2025. According to the section's bylaw, the term, however, is only valid for one year. A motion to update bylaws in line with R8 practices was initiated.

A remarkable value-add during AGM 2024 is a technical lecture by a new IEEE Fellow Subhrakanti Dey. Bio: <http://www.signal.uu.se/Staff/sd/sd.html>

The IEEE Sweden Section board was active in 2024 and held online meetings at every month (except the summer break). The IEEE Sweden Section also holds an annual workshop for all Chapter chairs affiliated with the section. The board meetings and chapter chair workshop have been reported as events in VTools.

The IEEE Sweden Section has regained its lost members during the pandemic, and the total number of members have reached 2000. To promote IEEE Sweden, the board and affinity chairs are wearing "IEEE Sweden" logo shirts and Section Banner on special occasions. We are also ordering IEEE merchandise to promote the Section and reward active members with certificates.

Students

The section has three active student branches (KTH, Chalmers and Linköping). New chairs and board members were actively recruited to all SBs. The new Student Activities chair and YP chair visited training events by R8 in 2024. The Section works to attract more student members via selected award memberships and form more SBs. Linköping SB received exemplary award from R8.

Affinity Groups

Young Professional and Women in Engineering Affinity Groups are present in the Section. WiE was quite active organizing several events, while YP got a new co-leader. The Section has a strong potential to form a LM AG, and we are working to organize it.

Chapters

The Section has fifteen registered chapters. The largest and most active societies are: COMSOC/VT, Computer, Signal Processing, Power and Energy, Microwave theory, Antennas and Propagation (over 100 members each).

The Annual Chapter Chairs workshop (held October) is a forum for all chapter, affinity group, student branch chairs to discuss events that could be done in collaboration. The meeting has been tradition since 2016 and is one reason for successful operation of the chapters. During the meeting, chapters are also briefed about the budget process for the coming years, making sure the budget is submitted, approved at the right time and the section treasurer has all the input needed to submit to the IEEE HQ. For 2024, the Chapter Chairs Workshop is scheduled for Oct 31st, and agenda is being formed. The Section chair approved 2 new petitions to form additional Chapters in the Section.

Industry

Anas (Ericsson) started as a new Industry Relations Officer and is active in arranging company visits and guest presentations.

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

WiE is a very active affinity group in the Section. Several Chapters (SPS, PES/PELS, YP, WiE, Reliability) are led by female members.

Dr. Ming Xiao, Membership Officer keeps the statistics regarding gender balance, inclusion, etc.

Activities since the last report

More details are given in the Section Q1-Q2 2024 Newsletter, <https://r8.ieee.org/sweden/2024/10/16/ieee-newsletter-2024-q1-q2/> here are some examples:

IEEE Power & Energy (PE) and Power Electronics (PEL) Sweden Chapter

This chapter had an annual meeting on February 21, 2024, at KTH - Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm. Dr. Alireza Nami, Research Centre Manager, Hitachi Energy, gave an exciting keynote speech at that event.

Title: High Power Converters for the Energy Transition: A journey from Past to Present and Beyond

Prof. Maryam Saeedifard, Georgia Institute of Technology, USA, gave an IEEE distinguished lecture on Tuesday, June 18, 2024, at KTH – Royal Institute of Technology, as well as via Zoom.

Title: Control and Protection of Multi-Terminal DC Grids

IEEE Signal Processing Society (SPS) celebrated its 75th anniversary on Monday, January 17, 2024, at Stockholm with a discussion topic on “Speeding up distributed learning: towards low-complexity communication-efficient algorithms with super linear convergence” On June 10, 2024, Professor Subhrakanti Dey, Department of Electrical Engineering at Uppsala University, Sweden, gave a talk in the society.

IEEE Women in Engineering Affinity Group Sweden

This affinity group celebrated International Women Day on March 8, 2024, where Margaretha Eriksson gave a talk on Women and Leadership. She was the past director of IEEE Region 8.

Planned activities

At the end of October 2024, Section plans to organize a strategy development workshop in a Stockholm hotel. The idea is that up to 10 experienced members (E.g. former chairs) can discuss the future plans for section success.

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

Maybe some help on Fellow elevation process.