

France Section

Richard Perdriau, Secretary

Section Vitality

Two official board meetings were held on July 3 and September 17 (both virtually). Moreover, two General Assemblies were organized on February 8 and December 3 (both in Paris).

On December 31, 2024, the Section gathered 3793 members. Compared with December 31, 2023 (3903 members), a 3 % decrease can be observed. More specifically, all categories are more or less stable, with a small decrease in (Life) Member grades (2138 vs. 2215) and (Graduate) Student Members (828 vs. 860), and a slight increase in (Life) Senior Member grades (571 vs. 558). Figures still remain a little better than on December 31, 2022 (3748 members).

Section elections 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 Garello
- 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, Smaïl Tedjini – AP03) to these positions were consequently appointed by the General Assembly on February 8, 2024.

The next elections will start before Summer 2025, so that results can be announced and validated by the General Assembly to be organized in December 2025. The current President (one mandate) and Secretary (two consecutive mandates) are not allowed to run for office.

4 IEEE Awards were/will be received by France Section members in 2024 and 2025:

- 2025 IEEE Richard M. Emberson Award, for Exemplary Leadership of IEEE Technical Activities and Structuring IEEE to Make Contributions in Response to Climate Change: Bruno Meyer
- 2025 IEEE MTT Society N. Walter Cox Award, for Exemplary Service to the Society in a Spirit of Selfless Dedication and Cooperation: Daniel Pasquet
- 2024 IEEE Frank Rosenblatt Award, for Outstanding Contributions to Biologically and Linguistically Motivated Computational Paradigms and Systems: Bernadette Bouchon-Meunier
- 2024 Distinguished Service Award of the IEEE Microwave Theory and Technology Society (MTT-S), in Recognition of a Distinguished Record of Service to the MTT Society and the Microwave Profession over a Sustained Period of Time: Victor Fouad Hanna

7 new Fellows were appointed in the Section in 2024 (6 in 2023). Gérard-André Capolino replaced Victor Fouad Hanna (who resigned) as Chair of the Fellow Committee.

16 conference technical sponsorship requests were filed for 2024, and 15 were accepted. 25 have already been filed for 2025 (all accepted) and 1 for 2026 (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 Université Paris-Saclay (formerly 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

New Student Branches are under creation at ENSIM Le Mans, CESI and Sorbonne Paris Nord.

8 Student Branches received rebates in 2024 (same as in 2023). 73 events were declared in 2024 (excluding the events specifically organized by SB Chapters), whereas 55 were declared in 2023. This is a significant increase.

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 and YP received bonuses for 2023 activities (WiE reported on time like the other AGs).

LM: 6 events were declared in 2024, including 4 conferences ('Modeling and Uses of the Concept of Consciousness' by G. Sabah, 'The Origins of AI' by M. Najim, 'Osmotic Energy' by L. Bocquet, 'Artificial Systems and Consciousness' by B. Bouchon-Meunier).

WiE: 7 events were declared events in 2024, including a participation to a panel in R8 SYP in Grenoble (France).

YP: 14 events were declared in 2024, 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), the EuMW Conference in Paris, the IES SYP 2024 Congress in India, and Baltic Electronics Conference (Tallinn, Estonia – panel on AI). New elections took place in 2024. The elected 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)
- Information Theory (IT12)
- Instrumentation and Measurement (IM09)
- Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS38) – **new in 2024**
- 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
- SBC15361I University of Bordeaux, CS23 – **new in 2024**
- 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 for 2023 activities. Moreover, activity bonuses were awarded to CIS11, MAG33, SMC28 and SSC37.

A total of 137 events were declared by all Chapters in 2024 (89 in 2023), 41 by SB Chapters (9 in 2023). This is a very significant increase compared to the previous year. Congratulations to all Chapters and Student Branch Chapters!

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

Another new Chapter (ITS38) was created in October 2024, with Mostafa Ameli as interim Chair.

The creation of a French Chapter of the Systems Council (projected interim Chair: Omar Hammami) is underway.

New Student Branch Chapters were created in Grenoble Alpes University (CAS) and Université de Bordeaux (CS) in 2024. The creation of a UFFC Student Branch Chapter in INSA Centre Val de Loire is scheduled in 2025.

New Chapter elections took place in 2024 for AP03 (Chair: Smaïl Tedjini), IM09 (Chair: Slavisa Jovanovic), PE31 (Chair: Gabriel Bareux), PHO26 (Chair: Frédéric Grillot), RL07 (Chair: Hichame Maanane), and SMC28 (Chair: Inès Saad). The C16 Chair (Arthur Vervaeet) resigned, and was replaced by Roua Touihri (former Vice-Chair).

A general meeting of Chapter Chairs (plus the Section ExCom and volunteers) was organized in Paris on October 23, and gathered 14 Chapter Board representatives (C16, CIS11, COM19, CS23, EMB18, EMC27, IM09, ITS38, OE22, PE31, PHO36, SEN39, SSC37, UFFC20).

Industry

The Action for Industry committee was reorganized, with 3 active ambassadors (Philippe Courmontagne, Laurent Cousteau, Serge Dos Santos).

A MOU was signed between the newly created UFFC Chapter and the French company Vermon, with a yearly financial sponsorship.

AFI organized Industry 4.0 events within SYP 2024 (Grenoble, France) and RTSI 2024 (Lecco, Italy).

The fifth edition of “Assises de l’Industrie 4.0” was organized in INSA Centre Val de Loire in September 2024.

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

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

13.33 % of Section members are women (and another 12.29 % 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 YP 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 Section organized the previous R8 Committee Meeting in Bordeaux on October 19-20.

A global overhaul of the Section’s Web site was carried out.

The YP affinity group organized a “Génies de l’Avenir” (Geniuses of the Future) event on March 4, 2025, to celebrate the World Engineering Day.

STMicroelectronics and the LM affinity group filed an application for a Milestone on Integrated Circuits for Satellite Digital Radio.

Planned activities

The Chapter Chair Meeting (October 23) paved the way to the organization of dedicated quarterly IEEE France Days in 2025. These workshops will be related to environment/climate change, energy, and the digital world. Planned topics are:

- Adapting Energy Systems to Climate Change
- Digital Twins
- Industry 4.0
- Cybersecurity

These meetings will be organized on one afternoon and the following morning, leaving the full evening for networking activities.

3 applications for Milestones are being prepared, involving the LM affinity group:

- The Micral N (first commercial microprocessor-based computer)
- The Invention of Turbo Codes
- General Gustave Ferrié, a Pioneer of Wireless Telegraphy

The YP affinity group will organize a Mentoring Meet event (in cooperation with Estonia, Italy and Switzerland), as well as contribute to WESYP 2025 (in Germany).

WiE and YP affinity groups will set up specific social activities during the EMC Europe 2025 Conference in Paris. This will be the second time, following the 2024 conference in Bruges.

AFI will appoint new active ambassadors. Joint student/YP/AFI events are planned between the Estonia and France sections. Industry 4.0 events will be organized in future RTSI events.

Another objective consists in signing other MOUs between French companies and Chapters.

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

No particular comments or requests.

Any other issues of interest

None.