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Budapest meeting focuses on industry, awareness and education

A TOTAL of 94 Section delegates, appointed and sub-committee members and guests from IEEE headquarters took part in the 102nd IEEE Region 8 Committee meeting in Budapest on 5–6 April.

Region 8 director Martin Bastiaans opened the event with an overview showing that the Region is currently the second largest in IEEE. At the end of February, Region 8 comprised a membership of 55,921 – some 18.2% of IEEE's total. Those interested in participating in membership development workshops were recommended to see further information from information from Antonio Luque and his team.

The meeting then heard several important messages from the IEEE president, president-elect and Region 8 director about challenges for IEEE and the Region in particular in maintaining its lead as a modern professional organisation.

President-elect Howard Michel highlighted the keys to our future: delivering value for working engineers, growing our IEEE community worldwide,



developing an IP publishing and conference process for the 21st century, and increasing visibility of the organisation. All these will affect the future of engineering, growth of IEEE and benefits to its members.

For those in Region 8, three strategic challenges were outlined. First was *Go to industry*: make IEEE a professional home for people in industry. This means making it more attractive to industry professionals by offering local benefits and considering corporate membership models.

The second challenge was *Increase IEEE's footprint*: make IEEE more visible to technologists, the public and media, and raise awareness about IEEE

Clockwise from top left: Budapest's Chain Bridge, the SAC team preparing for the meeting, R8C participants

...continued on page 2 ▶

IN THIS ISSUE

Region news 1–3



Section and Chapter news 3–7



IEEE contacts 4

WIE & YP news 8



Student news 9–12



Univ of Passau's Student Branch celebrates 25 years

IEEE Student Branch Passau turned 25 years old on 20 February and further celebrated its 25th anniversary during the summer at the 5th IEEE Germany Student Conference.

The Student Branch is a feature of day-to-day life at the university and organises a regular program of talks and workshops for Passau's computer science students. It is a link between students, professors

and companies, holding events such as research talks and 'professors face-to-face' meetings during which we invite professors to talk about their lives and careers.

The branch also hosts workshops and competitions, notably the Weekend of Code and the Egg-Drop contests. Members can also participate in fun events such as the Student Branch's annual

...continued on page 2 ▶

IEEE president Roberto de Marca visited Passau to talk on Open Access and Emerging Technologies

Sections Congress 2014 will inspire leadership

IEEE Sections Congress 2014 is being held in Amsterdam, Netherlands, at the Rai Convention Center on 22–24 August. The theme for the event is *Inspiring Our Leaders of Tomorrow*, offering three program tracks: Enhance Member Satisfaction, Improve Volunteer Experience and Reach Globally with Local Touch.

Sections Congress is a triennial gathering of Section leadership sponsored by the Member and Geographic Activities (MGA) Board. Providing a platform for four days of working sessions and networking, it involves hundreds of delegates from all ten IEEE Regions.

Delegates learn how to utilise IEEE resources to maximise their

effectiveness as volunteer leaders. Workshop, panel and tutorial sessions are held on topics of interest to the Sections. Sections Congress is the one major IEEE-sponsored meeting that brings together the grassroots leadership to share ideas, concerns and solutions.

The Congress is also a forum in which the Section chairs speak for the collective voice of members, expressing ideas about how IEEE can better serve its members, both now and going forward. The issues generated at Sections Congress will have had a major impact on the plans made by the IEEE leadership for the future of the organisation.

Zhijia Huang and Roland Saam

Budapest focuses on industry, awareness and education

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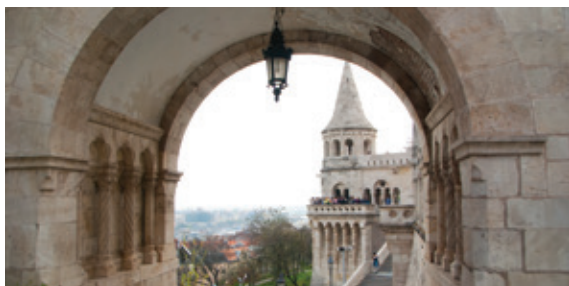
among both governmental and non-governmental organisations active in technology.

Finally, we should *Think education*: pre-university and lifelong education, accreditation and certification, and soft skills.

If you are interested in any of these items, please get involved.

More great technical achievements associated with IEEE have been celebrated over the last year in the IEEE Milestones Program. New Milestones in Region 8 were:

- Invention of Holography, 1947 – London, England (dedicated 12 June 2013, UK & Rep of Ireland Section)
- Krka-Šibenik Electric Power System, 1895 – Šibenik, Croatia (dedicated 5 July 2013, Croatia Section)
- Rheinfelden Hydroelectric Power Plant, 1898–2010 – Rheinfelden, Germany (to be dedicated 25 September 2014 – the first Milestone in Germany Section)
- First generation and experimental proof of electromagnetic waves, 1886–88 – Karlsruhe, Germany
- First breaking of Enigma code



Group visit to the fisherman's bastion in Budapest

University of Passau's Student Branch celebrates 25 years

▶ continued from page 1...

weekend trips into the countryside, barbecues and regular meetings.

Every once in a while, we visit other Student Branches or invite them over. Last summer we met up with the Student Branch at JKU Linz, Austria, where we visited the Ars Electronica Center. The Student Branch at Leuven, Belgium, was our guest early last September. We showed them the city, the Andorfer brewery and some other attractions in Passau.

For last year's IEEE Day at the beginning of October, IEEE 2014

by the team of Polish Cipher Bureau, 1933–39 Warsaw, Poland.

Also raised were the new benefits that come with the IEEE membership, especially Google Apps which is being made available free to all members. This service provides a unique iee.org e-mail address (eg: John.A.Doe@iee.org) complete with an address free Gmail inbox (with automated email forwarding options), 30GB of cloud data storage accessible from anywhere and shared between Gmail and Google Drive, and a 99.9% up-time guarantee from Google itself.

Please go ahead and sign up this professional-class email and cloud data service – it's free as part of your IEEE membership.

If you are job-hunting, there are further benefits. Have a browse around IEEE Job Site (careers.iee.org) or if you are writing a CV, get some tips at IEEE Resume Lab (www.iee.org/resumelab). Those looking for a mentor and career guidance try IEEE MentorCentre (www.iee.org/mentoring).

Zhijia Huang and Roland Saam



Get the latest info on Computer Soc

THE IEEE Computer Society Member Development Committee for Region 8 has launched a website to provide up-to-date information about the Computer Society and news on its current activities.

Visit <http://csr8.org> and <http://news.csr8.org>

csr8.org for latest information on programs, projects, awards and scholarships.

Members are invited to send in their suggestions at <http://link.csr8.org/cs-new-year> or by email to hello@csr8.org.

Ioannis Mousmoutis

Dubai hosts spring MD workshop

THE spring 2014 edition of the Membership Development workshop took place in Dubai (UAE Section) on 8 March. This workshop is a one-day event at which new MD officers from several Sections get together with members of the Region 8 MD subcommittee to learn how to do their volunteer job more efficiently.

Developing our membership is a task for everyone, as we are the core of IEEE. To this end, every Section has a dedicated MD officer tasked with helping members get the most from their membership.

During the workshop in Dubai, officers received training in IEEE



software tools, data analysis, calendar, retention and renewal, and case studies of MD activities in Kuwait and UAE Sections. The workshop will be held annually in different places of the Region, so that all new MD officers can attend.

Antonio Luque

Get involved in IEEE Academic and help change the world of education

HAVE you ever wondered how you can affect people's lives in a positive way? Do you want to be a part of a leap forward in education? Do you want to be involved in IEEE's innovative educational project? This is what we are doing with the IEEE Academic Project and with it we hope that you can help us change the world.

Approved and funded by IEEE New Initiatives Committee, the IEEE Academic Project aims to develop a locally focused education resource for undergraduate and first-year graduate students in IEEE's fields of interest. Video modules on relevant classroom materials will be developed and made available for review and study by participating students, using the language of instruction and the relevant technical vocabulary.

IEEE Academic has been running successfully for more than a year now. Current statistics show that the Academic site is frequently visited during test and exam

periods, providing access to students who want a useful and easy-to-use platform, where they can find online videos and explanations on each recorded class, developed and supervised in co-operation with the instructor.

This project help Student Branches and Sections become better recognised on a worldwide level, and every Student Branch is invited to participate.

We now count 17 initiatives all over the world, with more than 23 IEEE Sections and 57 universities producing educational material.

For more information, go to the project website at <http://academic.iee.org/>.



The Region 8 director who opened the Iron Curtain

REGION 8 mourns past director Dr Sven-Olof Öhrvik, professor emeritus at Lund University, who died on 15 May 2014 at the age of 85.

With his quiet, unassuming manner, Dr Öhrvik led our Region from 1989 to 1990, a time during which the Iron Curtain was opened and the Cold War came to an end. His leadership ensured that members from the former Eastern Bloc countries could obtain better service from IEEE with the development of new Sections. He was the first regional officer to visit some of these new Sections, such as Belarus, which was very much appreciated by the members. It was during his term as director that the Moscow Section (today the Russia Section) was formed.

In 1990, as a result of his initiative, the IEEE Board of Directors held its first meeting outside of North America, in Brussels, Belgium. That same year, he organised the first Region 8 Meeting outside of Region 8, providing an opportunity for Section chairs and volunteer delegates to attend Sections Congress in Toronto, Canada.

Before Dr Öhrvik was appointed as the professor in the

Faculty of Engineering and the Department of Applied Electronics at Lund University, he had an outstanding career as a development manager at Ericson Radio Systems in Kista, Sweden. He is regarded as one of the foremost pioneers and visionaries in mobile communication. In the 1980s, he presented a paper in which he predicted an unbelievable reduction in the size of mobile phones. His solid theoretical and practical knowledge was invaluable to him as an engineering educator and academic leader.

Dr Öhrvik began his career as an IEEE volunteer in 1983 when he was elected chair of the Sweden Section. He held this office for four years until 1987, and in 1985/6 he also was chair of the joint VT/COM/IT Chapter. In 1988, he was elected as Region 8 director for the term 1989 to 1990, and subsequently went on to serve as a volunteer on several IEEE committees and boards.

We mourn the loss of Sven-Olof, and share the grief of his wife Lotte and his daughters. He will be sadly missed.

*Kurt R Richter
Charles W Turner*

1991–1992 Region 8 Director
1993–1994 Region 8 Director



Dr Sven-Olof Öhrvik (1928–2014)

Dr Öhrvik's volunteer activities in IEEE included:

- 1984–1987 Sweden Section Chair
- 1985–1986 Sweden Section Joint VT/COM/IT Chapter Chair
- 1988–1993 Sweden Section Vice Chair
- 1989–1990 Region 8 Director
- 1989–1991 IEEE Strategic Planning Committee member
- 1989–1990 IEEE Educational Activities Board member
- 1991–1992 IEEE Nominations and Appointments Committee member
- 1993–1994 IEEE Admission and Advancement Committee member

Iraq Section tech sponsors ICECCPCE13 in Mosul

INTERNATIONAL Conference on Electrical, Communication, Computer, Power and Control Engineering 2013 was held in Mosul, Iraq, on 16–17 December. IEEE Iraq Section and ComSoc Iraq Chapter provided technical sponsorship for the event. It was the fourth to be held in Iraq since the end of 2010.

In total, 117 papers were submitted, some 25% from researchers outside Iraq: India, UK, Iran, Turkey, Malaysia and China. After solid reviewing, 41 papers were accepted and have been forwarded to IEEEExplore.

The opening lecture, Multidisciplinary Prospective in Information Security, was given by the chair of Iraq Section, Dr Majid from Mosul City. He also spoke about the status of the Section and its different activities inside and outside the country.

www.tcmosul.net/conference



Passing the message in a different way

AT the recent Region 8 Committee meeting in Budapest (see pages 1–2), Technical Activities subcommittee decided to move away from the traditional reporting of activities in between meetings to a more audience-engaging format. This involved presenting a series of individual topics and answering questions on them. Interaction was increased as a result and it received very good feedback from the Section chairs.

● *Chapter Coordination* discussed the topic 'Keeping Chapters alive in your Section' which was aimed at increasing activity and reporting within chapters.

● *Conference Coordination* subcommittee dealt with the topic 'What to keep in mind when organising quality conferences', targeted at increasing Section involvement in conferences and ensuring high quality standards of the technical programs.

● *Educational Activities* presented 'Education challenges in the global village', dealing with increasing use of the internet and virtual tools in the field of education.

● *Industry Relations* subcommittee looked into 'Industry Relation activities - from vision to reality', during which issues that can make IEEE more relevant to industry within Region 8 were highlighted and discussed.

Section chairs were able to question the material presented and proposed suggestions that will be considered for future action.

We plan to adopt the same format for future Region 8 meetings but the standard reporting is still available online – go to www.ieee8.org/category/committee/meetings/2014-april-budapest/

Thanks to all the volunteers involved in the technical activities subcommittees for their fantastic job!

Carl James Debono
Region 8 vice-chair for
Technical Activities



UAE Section hosts the Teacher In-Service Program Middle East workshop in Dubai

THE Teacher In-Service Program Middle East Workshop was held in Dubai, UAE, on 13 and 14 June. The workshop trained more than 100 IEEE volunteers and school teachers from ten Middle Eastern IEEE Sections how to organise their own TISP workshops.

TISP functions essentially as a professional development course of instruction aimed at helping teachers bring exciting hands-on engineering lessons into their classrooms. Once trained, IEEE volunteers can connect with pre-university schools in their local communities to deliver the hands-on program.

The workshop participants came from seven Sections in Region 8 including Bahrain, Jordan, Kuwait,



UAE, Saudi Arabia, Lebanon, Egypt and Tunisia, and three Sections from Region 10 – Karachi, Lahore and Islamabad. The event was sponsored by the IEEE Pre-University Education Coordination Committee, a standing committee of IEEE Education Activities Board. It was organised by UAE Section and supported by Region 8.

Participants engaged in hands-

on activities, breakout discussion sessions and plenary talks with an option for live translation to Arabic. Activities included creating a robot arm and a wind turbine from simple objects found in daily use. Check out the IEEE TryEngineering portal (www.tryengineering.org) for lesson plans and many other hands-on activities.

For more information about TISP, please visit <http://www.ieee.org/teacherinservice>.

If you are interested in the program and would like to host or participate in a workshop in your Section, feel free to email us at r8puw@ieee.org.

Sohaib Qamar Sheikh
Region 8 Pre-University
Activities co-ordinator



Your editors: Zhijia Huang and Roland Saam

It's summertime... and the networking is easy

HOPE you are all enjoying the summer. Please take the opportunity to have more interaction with other members and volunteers since they will be organising many fun and informative events throughout the region. One of the best benefits for you as well as IEEE comes from the face-to-face networking and the connections you will find by participating in our social network.

For student members and Young Professionals who have the privilege of a summer holiday, you can take the opportunity to get involved in local student and YP activities. The Region 8 SYP '14 Congress in Krakow, Poland on 7–15 August is a five-day event with lots of fun, workshops, brainstorming and networking. Whatever you engage with this summer, please remember to pass on what you have learned to other students and young members to inspire them.

Many Sections and Chapters are organising summer schools, workshops and seminars for members

in the Region. Find out about these events on their websites or www.ieeeR8.org. Join these activities and meet others to enjoy sharing your experiences. Later in August, many IEEE volunteer leaders from all over the world will meet in Amsterdam for the Sections Congress – the first time it has taken place in our Region. Find out more on page 1 this issue.

Did you know that EPICS – Engineering Projects in Community Services – in IEEE is a social innovation initiative that began five years ago? This initiative is set up for members to work with their local community and high school students to increase student interest in learning engineering and related careers. They are looking to assist new projects with funds from US\$5,000–10,000. For more information, visit www.ieee.org/go/epics-high.

Please continue to send in your articles and photos of your events, and observe some guidelines you'll find on our website.

Zhijia and Roland

New tech awards in the Region

REGION 8 has received nine 2015 Technical Field Awards:

- Biomedical Engineering Award: Christofer Toumazou (FIEEE), UK and Ireland Section
- James L Flanagan Speech and Audio Processing Award: Stephen John Young (FIEEE), UK and Ireland Section
- Herman Halperin Electric Transmission and Distribution Award: Wolfram Boeck (FIEEE), Germany Section
- Reynold B Johnson Information Storage Systems Award: Dov

Moran, Amir Ban and Simon Litsyn (SMIEEE), Israel Section

- Joseph F Keithley Award in Instrumentation and Measurement Award: Jean-Charles Bolomey (FIEEE), France Section
- Frederik Philips Award: Benedetto Vigna (MIEEE), Switzerland Section
- Photonics Award: Philip St John Russell, Germany Section
- Frank Rosenblatt Award: Marco Dorigo (FIEEE), Benelux Section
- Nikola Tesla Award: Ion Gheorghe Boldea (LFIEEE), Romania Section

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Extra copies

If you would like extra copies of Region 8 News for distribution at your IEEE events, please email a request to the editor before the deadlines below, specifying quantity and delivery address. Please type 'R8 News Extra Copies' in your email subject line.

Submitting articles

We welcome news, articles and letters from any member of the IEEE. Please send these to the editor as plain text by email to r8news@ieee.org, remembering to type 'Region 8 News' in your email subject line. If sending photos or graphics, please make sure they are high-resolution files. Read our full guide to writing and submitting articles at www.ieeer8.org → R8News Newsletter → Tips for contributors.

Deadlines for upcoming issues

November 2014 issue deadline: 1 September 2014
February 2015 issue deadline: 1 December 2014
May 2015 issue deadline: 1 March 2015



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Good practice and experience shared at CCM in Gdańsk

MICROWAVE Theory and Techniques Society organised the Chapter Chair Meeting in the beautiful historic city of Gdańsk, Poland, on 17 June in conjunction with the Microwave and Radar Week.

The aim of this very friendly meeting was to present to Chapter chairs and other Chapter representatives basic information how to run their Chapter successfully, what they are required to do and what they can get from the Society and from their Section.

The main task of Chapters and their chairs is to represent the Society to their members. At the same time, the meeting gives a great opportunity for participants to network, to meet their colleagues, to exchange ideas on good practice

(and of course on bad practice) and to share their experience.

The meeting was chaired by its organiser Jan Macháč, Region 8 MTT-S co-ordinator. Participants were welcomed by MTT-S past president Richard Snyder, MRW general chair and Division IV director Józef Modelski, and by Region 8 Chapter Coordination Sub-Committee chair Elya Joffe.

A fruitful discussion moderated by Wojciech Krzysztofik, IEEE AP/AES/MTT Poland Joint Chapter chair, together with a small poster session, showed participants the best practices of participating Chapters.

Jan Macháč, MTT-S Region 8 Coordinator

Daniel Pasquet, MTT-S AdCom member, MGA Chair



Vilnius workshop focuses on bio-inspired signal processing

THE 3rd IEEE Joint Lithuania-Poland workshop Bio-Inspired Signal and Image Processing (BISIP 2014) was held in Vilnius on 5 May.

The workshop was organised by IEEE Lithuania Section, SP/CIS/COM Chapter and IEEE Poland Section together with Faculty of Electronics, Vilnius Gediminas Technical University and Research and the Academic Computer Network, Warsaw University of Technology.

Welcoming 20 participants from industry, academia and research in-

stitutes with oral presentations of high technical and scientific level, this joint international workshop provided an opportunity not only to exchange scientific achievements, experience and best practice but also to promote friendly relations among represented countries and institutions.

Participants and workshop organisers look forward to the next BISIP workshop, to be held in Warsaw, Poland.

Sarunas Paulikas

Iraq Section chair corrects public perceptions during visit to UK



DURING his month-long visit to the UK's Northampton University, Iraq

Section chair Dr Sattar B Sadkhan gave a lecture about the status of his Section and its scientific activities inside and outside Iraq since its creation in September 2008.

For the many academics and postgraduate students who attended, the lecture was an eye-opener as they heard about IEEE

members' activities inside Iraq despite the difficult and unsafe environment existing in many cities.

The lecture helped remove some 'fuzziness' in the external perception of the country with regard to the status of its universities and ministries during the current difficult times.

Dr Sattar said that one of Iraq Section's main aims was to correct such perceptions about Iraq arising from constant media coverage of terrorism activities.



RoboMac attracts huge support and wide media coverage in Skopje

THE Fifth International competition in the field of robotics – RoboMac 2014 – was organised by the Student Branch of Ss Cyril and Methodius University, Skopje, in co-operation with EESTEC LC Skopje and the Student Parliament at FEET. It was held from 4–8 March, supported by IEEE Republic of Macedonia Section.

Its main purpose was to popularise robotics among students in the Region and support many other projects related to the subject.

RoboMac 2014 encouraged participants to learn about benefits and the latest advancements through workshops and lectures given by eight professors and experts in the field of robotics.

The event attracted 23 participants from across Europe (Serbia, Bosnia, Croatia, Montenegro, Slovenia, Turkey, Greece, Hungary, Poland, Spain, Italy, Latvia and



Sumo fights at the finals

Romania) as well as 60 domestic students.

The competition was held in five categories: Sumo, Race, Robotic Arm, Right Target and Humanoids. The finals on 8 March enjoyed wide media coverage.

The best evidence of our success was winning the IEEE Silver Darel Chong Student Activity Award for 2013.

Maja Celeska

Chair, University of Skopje Student Branch Republic of Macedonia Section

ENERGYCON attracts 300 participants to Dubrovnik to discuss energy and power

CROATIA Section organised IEEE ENERGYCON, an international forum dedicated to expertise in energy and power systems, on 13–16 May in Dubrovnik.

Although only in its third year (after Manama, Bahrain and Florence, Italy) the event it has become one of the most important IEEE conferences for the application of electronics, instrumentation, information and communication technology to the electricity industry.

Topics focused on sustainable development and were divided into six tracks: Future Power and Energy Systems, Low Carbon Distributed Energy, Sustainable Transportation, Advances in Energy Conversion, ICT in Energy and The Future of Gas in Power Sector. More than 300 participants from all over the world attended 41 sessions and 242 papers during the four days.

Highlights included keynote lecturers



Damir Novosel of Quanta Technology, IEEE PES president-elect Ian Hiskens from the University of Michigan, Joseph Guerrero from Aalborg University, Mladen Kezunovic from Texas A&M and Qing-Chang Zhong from the University of Sheffield.

All had an opportunity to enjoy one of the most beautiful coastlines in the world.

The next ENERGYCON will be held in 2016 in Belgium, to be organised by KU Leuven.

Tomislav Capuder, Croatia Section

FINLAND is one of the world's most innovative countries, so why should IEEE in Finland be any different?

For example, the SP/CAS Chapter initiated an annual seminar on Recently Funded Research Projects, which gathered research leaders who had been awarded substantial funding under European Union or Finnish National research grants. They advised IEEE Student Members on the strengths of their funding applications, and spelled out employment and thesis research opportunities within these new projects.

In another innovative move, IEEE volunteer motivation and empowerment was given a boost by assigning the role of project manager to the lead volunteer of every activity (project) undertaken by the Chapter. Volunteers are now expected to



Finland's SP/CAS Chapter takes innovative approach

manage their projects according to the norms of a typical industry project.

This enables them to take pride in their assignments and to hone their project management skills, with the added

benefit of earning a notable mention on their professional resumes.

The Chapter is also taking an innovative approach to enhancing IEEE membership, combining IEEE sponsorship

of technical conferences with the very useful Distinguished Lecturer program. Distinguished lecturers were invited as keynote speakers at IEEE conferences in exchange for free entry to IEEE members at some of the technical sessions. It was a win-win for both the Conference and the IEEE community in Finland, consequently earning an appreciation from leaders of the IEEE DL program.

For its efforts in propagating the values of IEEE in Finland, and for maintaining a clear record of its activities, the IEEE FS SP/CAS Chapter was awarded the 2013 Chapter Certification from the Signal Processing Society.

Dr Sarang Thombre

IEEE FS SP/CAS Chapter

www.cs.tut.fi/ieee_spcas

<http://sites.ieee.org/finland>

Gaining deep insight into e-mobility and future traffic

THE autumn meeting of the IEEE IAS/IES/PELS Joint German Chapter took place on 21–22 November last year in Osnabrück. Stadtwerke Osnabrück AG and the competence centre for electronics and KEA drives of the Osnabrück University for Applied Sciences sponsored a program dealing with e-mobility in urban regions.

Around 30 participants got a deep insight into Stadtwerke Osnabrück's strategic program Mobility 2030. Using several means of transport such as car sharing, buses and e-bikes – known as 'intermodal traffic' – will grow in importance in the future.

After visiting Stadtwerke Osnabrück's e-car and e-bus fleet, further insights in the usage pattern of e-Scooters and local smart grids were given. On the second day, Deutsche Bundesstiftung Umwelt presented some successful projects that are funded to protect the environment.

The meeting finished with a visit of the laboratories of Osnabrück University of Applied Sciences and everyone agreed that it was a very good opportunity to stay connected.

Ingo Pletschen

Public Relations chair, Joint IAS/PELS/IES German Chapter



Participants learnt the importance of getting everyone involved

Workshop provides volunteers with tools for membership development

A local volunteer training workshop was organised by UAE Membership Development at the Villa Rotana hotel in Dubai on 16 November. The objective was to provide detailed information about IEEE to volunteers and to equip them with the resources useful for the task of gaining and retaining members.

The chairman of Membership Development for UAE Section, Adeel Sultan, started off by sharing his valuable experience, stressing the importance of getting everyone involved. He said that it is everyone's business to be ambassadors carrying the message of IEEE, to explain the numerous benefits of membership and how it can help individuals with their careers.

Details about the various tools and resources were explained in a fun and relaxed atmosphere. Towards the end, Adeel demonstrated the analytics tool, SAMIEEE. It was a great success which concluded by appreciating the contributions of IEEE members in the UAE.

Later, everyone enjoyed networking with UAE executive committee and other members over lunch and received certificates of participation.

Feedback was positive and there are plans to hold more events within various cities of the UAE.

Adeel Sultan, chair-MD/IEEE-UAE

adeel_sultan@ieee.org

Distinguished lecturer in Dublin outlines trends in CMOS tech

ON 15 May, the Electron Devices Society (Dublin) and Photonics Society (Ireland) Joint Chapter hosted a seminar by EDS Distinguished Lecturer, Dr Fernando Guarín of the Semiconductor Research & Development Center, IBM Systems & Technology Group, New York.

The lecture was entitled Trends in Technology, Reliability and Qualification of Leading Edge CMOS Technologies and was hosted at the Rince Insti-

tute in Dublin City University.

Dr Guarín's talk dealt with many of the key reliability issues driven by the latest trends in semiconductor fabrication as it continues to scale and confront new reliability challenges introduced by the use of High K Metal Gate (HKMG) and FinFET devices. The path to maintaining the advanced CMOS scaling cadence and new reliability limiting factors were discussed from the reliability perspective.

A closer look was given to Hot Carriers, Bias Temperature Instabilities and statistical variations (process and geometric). The characterisation, models and qualification methodologies for the successful transfer of leading edge technologies to a manufacturing environment were discussed.

As well as being a senior engineer/scientist at the IBM Microelectronics Semiconductor Research Development Center, Dr Guarín is an adjunct

lecturer at SUNY New Paltz. He received his BSEE from the Pontificia Universidad Javeriana in Bogotá, Colombia; a MSEE degree from the University of Arizona; and his PhD in Electrical Engineering from Columbia University in the city of New York.

Dr Guarín is an IEEE Fellow and Distinguished Lecturer for the IEEE Electron Device Society as well as being the Society's current Secretary.

Patrick J McNally

South African conference looks at SKA project and much more

PRETORIA played host to another successful conference organised by South African IEEE AP/MTT/EMC Joint Chapter, featuring five plenary talks and 37 technical presentations, attracting 93 registered delegates.

The aim of the conference was to bring together engineers and researchers from both the South African industry and academia working in fields related to antennas and propagation (AP), microwave theory and techniques (MTT) and electromagnetic compatibility (EMC).

The conference covered research and development activities centered on the Square Kilometre Array (SKA) radio-astronomy project, antennas, radar and remote sensing, active and passive micro-

wave devices, electromagnetic wave propagation and radio frequency spectrum management, computational electromagnetic modelling, and electromagnetic compatibility.

Prof Joubert and Dr Lysko express the gratitude to the sponsors University of Pretoria, CSIR Meraka Institute, DS Communications, CST, EM Software & Systems, ANSYS, GEW Technologies, Protea Electronics, Inala Technologies and Concilium Technologies.

More information about the conference may be found online at ceatup.co.za/ieeeconferencesa.

The next conference is planned for 2016.

Albert Lysko

Chair of South African IEEE AP/MTT/EMC Joint Chapter



Nigeria Section discusses ICAST planning and Internet of Things

IEEE Nigeria Section executive committee paid a courtesy visit to Covenant University management on 30 May to discuss the planning of the International Conference on Adaptive Science and Technology – ICAST 2014 – to be hosted by the University.

We were welcomed by AA Atayero, the deputy vice chancellor (Academics) of Covenant University, Ota, Nigeria. In his welcome, Prof Atayero, an IEEE Senior Member, recalled how he had looked forward to making an impact in the local Section. He went further to introduce the chair and all ICAST 2014 LOC members.

In her remarks, IEEE Nigeria Section chair Gloria Chukwudebe re-iterated her commitment in supporting ICAST 2014 to

ensure the conference followed IEEE standards. Other issues discussed included membership dues, call for papers, online paper submission and Student Branch activities reactivation.

After the visit, the Section Meeting and Technical Seminar took place on 31 May. The guest lecture on Internet of Things by Demola Idowu of Silveredge Projects provoked a lot of discussion and possible research areas for the security and power challenges in the country. This was followed by Young Professionals, PES, Robotics, Computer Society and EMC meetings.

John Funso-Adebayo

Secretary, IEEE Nigeria Section
funso@ieee.org

Vilnius Gediminas Technical University lectures



IEEE Signal Processing Society distinguished lecturer V John Mathews from the Department of Electrical & Computer Engineering at the University of Utah delivered a lecture on Signal Processing for Diagnostic Medicine at the Faculty of Electronics, Vilnius Gediminas Technical University on 5 May.

The event was organized by Lithuania SP/CIS/COM Joint Chapter and sponsored by the IEEE Signal Processing Society and Faculty of Electronics. Some 30 people from industry, academia and research institutes attended.

Prof Mathews explained how analysis of commonly measured physiological signals can provide many clues about a person's health. This was demonstrated with an example: heart rate variability and other measures of heart rate behaviour over time have been used in health assessment of adults, children and foetuses.

The first part of this talk gave two ex-

amples of how heart rate variability may be used for early detection of pregnancy-related diseases, and to monitor the status of adult sepsis patients. The second part discussed how to apply signal processing techniques to build tools for reliably monitoring the cardiovascular state of fetuses using ultrasound techniques.

Sarunas Paulikas

ON 19 May, the IEEE Lithuania Joint Chapter of AP/ED/MTT Societies and IEEE Lithuania Section welcomed Paul Berger, IEEE Fellow and EDS distinguished lecturer of EDS, to speak at the Faculty of Electronics of Vilnius Gediminas Technical University.

The lecture was attended by members of Lithuania Section, students and representatives of the local scientific community and businesses.

The first part introduced a case study of polymer-fullerene derivative bulk heterojunction photovoltaics. The key features and unresolved problems of the polymer photovoltaic were shown. The second part of the lecture was directed towards manufacturable passive millimeter-wave imaging detectors.

Prof Berger is a faculty advisor to Ohio State's two IEEE Student Chapters (Undergraduate and Graduate).

He also took the opportunity to meet with the chairmen and supervisor of IEEE Vilnius Gediminas TU Student Branch and local YP Chapter. He shared his experience of organizing student activities and proposed the possibility of co-operation in the field of doctoral studies.

Vytautas Urbanavichius
Vilnius Gediminas TU



Israel's LM Affinity Group is outstanding

IEEE Israel Section Life Members Affinity Group has been included on the 2014 List of Outstanding LM Groups.

The list is based on activities, the number of events, the average attendance, and the number of contributors to the IEEE Life Members Fund.

The committee seeks to promote satisfaction with involvement in IEEE, recognise the contributions of Life Members to IEEE activities, generate more LMA Groups and get them engaged in IEEE activities. The committee also promotes and publicise donations to the Life Members Fund.

Keeping Life Members engaged is important to the success of local IEEE activities. An affinity group is an effective way to keep them active.

Jose B Cruz

Chair, IEEE Life Members committee

Clementina Saduwa Award is given to Cisco Services CTO

THIS year's recipient of the Clementina Saduwa Award is Monique Jeanne Morrow from Switzerland.

Ms Morrow is chief technology officer at Cisco Services, charged with developing strategic technology and business architectures for Cisco customers and partners. She has more than 20 years of experience in the field of computer inter-networks and an outstanding record of innovation.

She also has a brilliant history of urging women to take ownership of their careers and "writing their own script" for the future. She has even addressed the European Parliament on this subject. She is passionate about advancing Girls in ICT and Women in Technology.

The award is named after Clementina Saduwa, a tireless and extremely effective volunteer student leader when IEEE Nigeria Section was being revived, and who went on to become the first ever IEEE Region 8 Women In Engineering Co-ordinator. In January 2007, she was killed in a random



Monique Morrow receives the Clementina Saduwa Award from Region 8 WIE co-ordinator Joyce Mwangama, witnessed by Region 8 director Martin Bastiaans (left) and IEEE 2014 president-elect Howard Michel

act of violence and left behind a husband and young daughter. She was 29 years old.

To honour her work, Women In Engineering and Region 8 named this award in her memory. It is given annually to recognise a woman engineer in the Region who, through her engineering and career achievements, has demonstrated noteworthy support for women in the profession and has established a benchmark of engineering excellence.

Portugal's first WIE national meeting shares experiences through activities



ON 14 March, a one-day event was held in Portugal by IEEE-IST at the Instituto Superior Técnico – Campus do Taguspark with the goal of gathering several Portuguese WIE Affinity Groups in order to help them thrive for a better future.

Since this was the first WIE national meeting ever held in Portugal, there was a big effort by WIE IEEE-IST to provide a variety of learning and entertainment activities, encouraging the 30 participants to share WIE-related experiences.

A talk simply entitled Women in Engineering gave participants the opportunity to learn from several women researchers and scientists who outlined what it took to build their successful careers in Portugal. Another such activity was a workshop on Emotional Intelligence at Work.

All participants from several WIE Student AGs in Portugal had the opportunity to share their best experiences and to connect with others through dynamic activities where teambuilding and communication skills were highlighted.

Sofia Ferreira, WIE IEEE-IST chair
Gonçalo Carito, IEEE-IST Vice-Chair

Strength in numbers: Iraq WIE Affinity Group

IEEE Iraq Section's WIE Affinity Group is highly active. Through the sponsorship of the Iraq Section or IEEE ComSoc Iraq Chapter, the members of the WIE affinity group has participated effectively in many scientific activities, including conferences, workshops and lectures.

A major recent event in which WIE was

involved was the international conference ICECCPCE13, held in December and sponsored by Iraq Section. This successful event attracted 340 participants to the opening ceremony and the WIE Affinity Group participated effectively in this conference – more than 40 percent of the participants were women.

Region 8 in Hall of Fame again

SINCE the start of 2014, Region 8 Young Professionals has launched many exciting projects for YPs in our Region. The revitalisation and initialisation project resulted in five new applications to establish YP Affinity Groups. Furthermore, regular Skype meetings with AG chairs has brought positive feedback and ideas for new projects.

In terms of recognition, the Annual Region 8 YP Outstanding Affinity Group Award has been launched – and we have received excellent nominations. Moreover, for the fourth year in a row, the MGA YP Hall of Fame Award was been won by an Affinity Group in our Region. After Finland, Egypt and Tunisia, Croatia was rewarded for its spectacular YP activities and achievements for the past year.

During the holidays, our main focus was the Student and Young Professional Congress that is going to be held in Krakow, Poland. This year, Region 8 supported the highest number of YP Chairs in the history of SBC congresses so expect some magic in Krakow!

Rafal Sliz, Region 8 Young Professionals Program chair

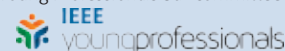
Event Exchange to share ideas

IN order to increase interactions between Affinity Groups and help them to organise new exciting events, the Region 8 Young Professional subcommittee has launched the Event Exchange Program.

The concept of the program is simple: Affinity Groups submit materials they have regarding the events they have organised, which will be published on our website at yp.ieee8.org. Submissions should include the title of the event, a short abstract, aims, main challenges and how they can be overcome, outcomes, suggested improvements and publicity materials.

By participating in this program, members will be sharing new ideas with other YP Affinity Groups around Region 8, create a closer sense of community, and have the possibility to engage YP members from all over Region 8. It is not just to seize a great opportunity to showcase their achievements but also to inspire other Affinity Groups and gain knowledge. YP Affinity Groups that submit event materials will receive YP Region 8 t-shirts as a token of our gratitude!

Flavia Dinca, Region 8 Young Professionals Subcommittee



Finnish Innocamps to spark innovation among graduates

INNOCAMP Evenings are the focal point for activities during 2014 for volunteers among the Young Professionals in Oulu area.

In cooperation with Business Kitchen Oulu, Innovation Services Oulu and TEK, YPs are organising a series of four hands-on workshops to improve soft skills. Like-minded graduate students and scholarly persons are offered to open up their view to the business aspect of their research.

Halfway through this year, YPs can look back on two successful evenings, held on 15 April and 27 May, dedicated to 'creativity & brainstorming' and 'from idea to business'. Forthcoming events planned for September and November will be devoted to 'adding value' and 'visualising ideas'.

The first evening was held in the

roomy space of the Learning and Interaction Observation Forum (Leaf) located in the University of Oulu, equipped with diversified technology which gave great opportunities for brainstorming.

The Business Kitchen, located in Oulu downtown area offered their premises for the second event. The evening started with a tour through their place. Participants saw open-space working areas ready and free to use by each participating individual and which emphasised the possibilities to network with others.

Both events were facilitated by hosts from Business Kitchen sharing their fields of expertise. Regardless of the small number of participants, it produced a surprisingly productive atmosphere.

Brigitte Lanz
IEEE YP Finland

Caledonian College of Engineering, Oman

Workshop reveals benefits of joining a professional body

THE Caledonian College of Engineering Student Branch in Oman organised a Student Development workshop on the topic 'Benefits of Joining a Professional Body, Role of IEEE Student Member & Online Registration' on 10 March at our Conference Hall.

Student Branch chairman Abdul Rehman and IEEE Branch Counselor Dr Dharmasa delivered the talk to nearly 20 students. They explained many benefits of joining IEEE professional body as a student member: keeping updated with fast-growing technologies through *IEEE Spectrum* magazine, online IEEE TV, free download of IEEE transaction abstracts, jobs on the IEEE website and so on.

Dr Dharmasa highlighted the advantage of new IEEE student members in making a professional career path by linking with technical experts of IEEE members. He discussed the benefits of participating in IEEE talks and presenting papers in peer-reviewed international conferences and journals. The speakers demonstrated the process of joining IEEE online.

Throughout the workshop, the activities of IEEE CCE student branch were highlighted and students had good interaction with the speakers. Dr Dharmasa concluded the talk with future goals of a young engineer in the nation building process.

Pawar Dharmasa



American University in Dubai, UAE

College to career transition

THE IEEE Student Branch at American University in Dubai, along with the UAE Section Young Professionals AG, hosted a seminar for engineering students themed 'A Smooth College to Career Transition' to encourage students to plan for their careers.

Mohammed Waleed Ayoub, UAE Section YP Chair & electrical maintenance engineer at Dubai

Aluminium, was invited to speak to 30 engineering students. He provided valuable advice on strategic planning according to goals and the job hunting process. As an AUD alumnus, and founder and first chair of the AUD Student Branch, he was in the ideal position to look back and direct students on the right path.

Mohammed Waleed Ayoub

University of Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina
Student Branch sets up Power & Energy Chapter and makes plans

IEEE Bosnia and Herzegovina Section was established in 2005 at the Faculty of Electrical Engineering University of Sarajevo. The Student Branch was officially established three years later.

Now after six years of success, we have set up a Power & Energy Chapter at the Student Branch.

At our first meeting we talked about upcoming plans and ideas, such as a 'What's cooking ladies? Be



a true engineer one day!' seminar about the status of women in engineering, along with a distinguished lecturer program, a workshop about smart grids, and potential visits to small powerplants.

Dzenan Klepo



IAS SBC chair Bojan Nikolić and MD officer Adnan Salihbegović

University of Sarajevo
Nikolić receives
Volunteer Award

IEEE Bosnia and Herzegovina Section has presented the Outstanding Volunteer Award to Industry Applications Student Branch Chapter chair Bojan Nikolić to recognise his outstanding contribution to the Section. The plaque was presented by Membership Development officer Adnan Salihbegović at the Section's anniversary event at the Faculty of Electrical Engineering.

The Faculty was also honoured with a plaque to recognise many years of continuous support of the activities of the Bosnia and Herzegovina Section, presented to Dean Dr Narcis Behlilović by the Section's past chair Branislava Draženović.

Dužanka Bošković

Bosnia and Herzegovina Section



Qatar University

Expanding Student Branch takes
centre stage in Engineering Week

AT Qatar University, the Student Branch was established in 2006 with only a handful of students. However, orientation days held during the 2013–14 academic year led to a dramatic increase in the number of students registered. IEEE Qatar University Student Branch now boasts a total of 70 members, and is being chaired by five dedicated students along with two faculty members.

Qatar University held its second Engineering Week from 23–28 April. This annual event helps high school and university foundation students explore the depth of innovation and technology in different engineering disciplines to develop their interest.

The Electrical Engineering department of Qatar University was represented by IEEE

Let's revive those
dormant SBs

DEAR IEEE student friends...

Are you interested in revitalising your Student Branch? Do you want your Student Branch to be exemplary but need some guidance in order to achieve it? Do you know a Student Branch that is currently inactive?

We are here to help you!

The Region 8 Student Activities Committee has launched something new – the IEEE Region 8 Revitalisation Project – in which we are working to identify all inactive Student Branches across our Region and help them become alive and active again.

It is of great importance for both us and Region 8 to have such awesome student activities and all because of you – yeah, you, our valuable student members – that together are working on excellent projects, making the greatest teams and being the best volunteers in IEEE. That is why we are always here to assist you and help you when needed.

If you know of a dormant Student Branch in your Section or area and if you need some advice on how to organise a successful event or even discuss an innovative idea, drop us an email at r8sac@ieee.org.

Your Student Activities
Committee,
*Christian, Djordje, Elias, Femia,
Pablo, Piotr and Youmna*





Manipal University, Dubai

What's inside a laptop? SB members find out...

THE Manipal Dubai Student Branch organised a technical workshop on 27 March at the Manipal University CISCO Networking Academy. 'Inside a Laptop' was aimed exclusively at the IEEE student Members and was organised by the Madhur Tipnis with the help of Muhamed Fuzail, Sonali Seth and Aishwarya Kumar.

The workshop was introduced by Branch counsellor and Cisco instructor Jawid Nazir, and was followed by a presentation about the internal components of a laptop computer.

Four teams of five members each worked on one or more laptops with toolkits provided. The mentor and the organisers walked around to make sure it progressed without a hitch, occasionally lending a hand or giving guidance.

It was an educational and informative session for the participants, just as much as it was a fulfilling event for the organising

staff. The Student Branch thanked the School of Engineering and Dr SK Pandey for their support.

The Student Branch organised another workshop on 3 April at the Manipal University, Dubai Campus entitled 'Do you know Microcontrollers?' on how to start a small project utilising the Arduino-based microcontroller. It gave opportunities for students to start some interactive projects based on control and automation. The workshop was organised by Branch secretary Farzeen Hasharaf with Sahil Mir, Vipin Nair and Mohd Hanzala.

Informative seminars were given on 'The Importance of Microcontrollers', 'Rechargeable Batteries', 'Tips and Tricks about buying various components' and 'How to begin with a Project'. A hands-on workshop on programming and interfacing the Arduino was also in the program.

*Madhur Tipnis and
Farzeen Hasharaf*



Dogus University, Istanbul

Marmara Regional pulls in 276 students and strengthens links

THE 5th Marmara Regional meeting of Student Branches organised by IEEE Dogus Student Branch took place at Dogus University with 276 students participating from 24 institutions.

The program started with a welcome address by Muharrem Akbas followed by an opening speech by Izzet Cem Gökna, Life Fellow

Head of Dogus ECED 'IEEE history and role of mathematics in modelling'. The program continued until 6pm with seminars, talks and activities planned by several Student Branches. The closing dinner strengthened the solidarity of those attending.

The Branch also organised an Invitation to Dogus IEEE SB Day to attract new members.

*Izzet Cem Gökna, Life Fellow
Head of Dogus ECED*

University of Thessaly, Lamia, Greece

TISP program gets ministry backing after festival in Central Square

ON 10 May, the University of Thessaly Lamia Student Branch organised an open Teacher-In-Service-Program 2.0 Festival in the Central Square of Lamia, Greece.

Throughout the day, the event attracted more than 400 students of all ages. The participants were divided in small groups of three members and tried to solve the problems given to them with simple materials of everyday use within limited time.

All activities were chosen from tryengineering.org. The students collaborated and worked in teams, exchanging ideas on the solution



before coming to understand simple engineering. Local media also covered the event and representatives of the Ministry of Education proposed that the TISP should be part of the educational program of the schools from next year.

Technical College of Mosul, Iraq

Soft skills training day helps career planning

IRAQ Section held a one-day workshop 'Essential Soft Skills for Engineers' in the first day of the International conference ICECCPCE13 held in December in Mosul. Inspired by the IEEE training course 'Stuff You Didn't Learn in Engineering School', IEEE ComSoc Iraq Chapter team prepared a full day's workshop for the engineering students at the Technical College of Mosul.

The aim of the workshop was to teach students three main skills: how to choose the best career that fits them, how to excel in the career they choose, and the steps towards leadership. The topics included Communications Skills, People Skills, Making Decisions, Time Management, Creativity Techniques and Leadership Skills.

Sattar Bader Sadkhan

National Engineering School of Carthage, Tunisia

Sparking interest in youngsters by promoting engineering at school

TISP Tunisia Section continued its Series of Pre-university Activities by holding several workshops for children in Tunisia at a number of primary schools.

These events invite engineering students to present basic technology to children. Future engineers can learn a lot from such experience and the students are encouraged to develop their own projects. This is the third initiative held at the integrated center for children in Morneg-Tunis.

Two Teachers in Service Program training workshops were presented by the chair of IEEE ENICarthage (formerly ESTI) Student



Branch, Bilel Dekhili, and his team. About 40 children participated and shared the dream of engineering as a path in their lives.

Bilel Dekhili

ENICarthage Student Branch
bilel.dekhili@ieee.org

FCIH, Egypt

Skills-boost event is a brick in wall of fame

'CHARGE your skills', the most recent event at FCIH Student Branch on the theme 'We Complete not Compete', was held on 10 and 12 April and attended by more than 200.

Many talks and workshops on success stories, project management and presentation skills took place. Egypt Section's Young Professionals vice chair Khaled Mokhtar gave an impressive speech about innovation.

The Student Branch has applied for the IEEE Regional Exemplary Student Branch Award and IEEE Web Site Contest 2014. It has already won the IEEE DAY'13 'Most Creative Photo' contest. This event is just one brick in the Branch's wall of fame, and we are still building more and more.

Ahmed Youssif

FCIH Student Branch chair

University of Minho, Portugal

Practical events provide tools for the job market

LAST December, the University of Minho Student Branch worked very closely with the Portugal Section Women In Engineering Affinity Group to organise a two-session workshop on career training and coaching. Participants were shown how the job market works by speaker Marco Martins, owner of the Absolute You career coaching and training enterprise, also founder and former chair of the Branch.

During the eight-hour workshop, attendees managed to plan their dream career and get enough insight on how to succeed in the process of getting a job to compose a CV and prepare a job interview. The high standard was achieved thanks to the speaker who has an impressive professional career.

A second edition will follow

soon with improvements and a stronger practical component.

On the 25 March, the Student Branch organised a one-day event called 'Jornadas de Electrónica' with 200 participants. It was delivered by research groups of the Industrial Electronics Department of the University of Minho. The manufacturing giant Bosch was invited, providing students with direct contact with industry and the job market. It concluded with a talk by Marco Martins on the challenges of the job market.

Ricardo Alves Teixeira
Chair, IEEE Universidade do Minho Student Branch



University of Thessaly, Lamia, Greece

Start-up bootcamp leads to funding

IN March, University of Thessaly (Lamia) Student Branch organised a Press Start-Up bootcamp. The four-day event saw presentations and lectures on many topics conducted by distinguished trainers, covering Job Interviews, CV Writing, Preparing a Presentation, Business Plan, Customer Development, Fundraising and Success & Failure Stories.

During the bootcamp, participants interested in launching a start-up company formed their own teams, started working on their ideas and presented their projects on the final day.

The two most creative and useful initiatives were rewarded with initial funding, sufficient to help them to kickstart.

Ioannis Mousmoutis

University of Lagos, Nigeria

Picnic venue for EPICS update

ON 19 April, the University of Lagos Akoka Student Branch held its long-awaited picnic! It was very interesting to play host to the representative of the academic staff of the EEE Department, Dosu Adelabu, FNSE.

During the event, we shared updates on EPICS and the continuation of prototype modelling for introduction into the Lagos State Transport Maintenance Agency.

Open source software Arduino has been tested to replace the current Minibee. The representative of the students in charge of the project spoke on the issues faced in the new software and how they were resolved.

Section secretary John Funso-Adebayo reiterated the commitment of Nigeria Sec-

tion towards a successfully implemented i-Traffic Controller for Lagos State, reducing traffic congestion. The i-Traffic Controller is an EPICS project, approved by the IEEE EPICS Team in 2010 and the first to be sponsored in West Africa.

The i-Traffic Controller project was presented at the 1st Virtual Conference of the IEEE in 2012, hosted by Dexter University, USA. It will be publicly tested by the Lagos State Government Agency for Transport.

Students also showed great interest in the Region 8 SYP Congress at Krakov, Poland this year and have setup a virtual meeting to discuss their participation.

John Funso-Adebayo



Student Branch volunteers with Ismaell AbdelGhaffar at the LYC'14 closing ceremony

Arab Academy for Science and Technology, Alexandria, Egypt

7th SPAV shows students how to take control of their careers

THE IEEE Arab Academy for Science and Technology Alexandria Student Branch proudly launched the 7th annual student professional awareness venture (SPAV) – 'Leading your Career, Leading your Society 2014'.

The aim of this event is to raise professional awareness among students and provide the skills needed to excel in their future careers. Taking place from 1–3 February 'LYC' was partly sponsored by ITIDA and Misr Elkhair and technically sponsored by Spark Training Center.

With 260 attendees, the three full-day program of the event consisted of 34 sessions and workshops covering topics in engineering, technology and soft skills. A business and entrepreneurship track was introduced this year.

Based on the request of many attendees and positive feedback after such a great success, IEEE AAST Alex Student Branch is already planning for the next SPAV in 2015.

Alia Mohamed Galal
Secretary, AAST Alex Student Branch

JKU Linz, Austria

Trans-Atlantic Branch partnership

TWO different Sections from two Regions on two continents – Student Branch JKU Linz, Austria (www.ieee.jku.at), and the MIT IEEE/ACM Club (<http://ieee.scripts.mit.edu/blog.php>), Boston, Massachusetts, USA – have been official Student Branch partners since August 2013. This partnership helps students expand their horizons and develop new technologies.

It began with the research internship of medical-engineering student Bernhard Gruber, also vice-chair of JKU Linz Student Branch. Attending an IEEE Boston Section meeting, he presented the Austrian Student Branch and talked about their activities and extraordinary dynamics. This attracted interest from the ex-



ecutive committee to form a partnership with the local MIT Student Branch.

We later established connection with responsible officers Manting Lao (publicity chair) and Jason Yonglin Wu (faculty chair). The goal is to establish friendly co-operation and foster communication. The first activity will be a visit to CERN in September.

Bernhard Gruber
Student Branch, JKU Linz



Higher School of Tech & Computer Science, Tunisia

SBC wants successful engineers

FOUNDED by Hamza Jmii in March, the IEEE Higher School of Tech & Computer Science (ESTI) Computer Society Student Branch Chapter has hosted several training events.

On 19 April, a lecture entitled 'What Makes an Engineer Successful' was given by Dr Ghassen Mena. Then we organised neuro linguistic programming training in ESTI on 23 April, delivered by NLP

practitioner Zouhair Mbarek. We also organised SCRUM training hosted by Tarek Ben Mena where all participants received their certifications for participation.

Also organised was a session on Java Enterprise Edition delivered by Imed Ben Hmida to encourage students from the university to join IEEE and IEEE Computer Society.

Hamza Jmii



Instituto Superior Técnico, Portugal

IEEE Academic founder wins LKW award

ON 5 April in Budapest, Rui Miguel Costa received the Larry K Wilson Regional Student Activities Award for his extraordinary accomplishment, IEEE-IST Academic. His project was set up at the Taguspark campus of Instituto Superior Técnico in May 2012.

In July 2012, at the Region 8 Student Branch congress in Madrid, Rui proposed a global project, of which IEEE-IST Academic was the pilot. The project received a seed grant from IEEE Foundation's New Initiatives Program and was officially launched in September 2013.

IEEE Academic is an international project, with college students and professors creating free educational materials together. It was created and is mostly driven by students. Participating students record and edit videos, take care of logistics, co-ordinate across local groups, maintain the website and train new members. Working side-by-side with professors, they create new content that will be freely available to everyone, everywhere, and produce new tools to support teaching. Dozens of local groups from over 15 countries are involved.

IEEE Academic was present at Collision Conference in 13–14 May in Las Vegas, as part of Collide which selects 150 of the world's most promising startups.

Ethymia Arvaniti

Alexandria Student Branch

Learning to manage your creativity

ALEXANDRIA Student Branch organised a three-day program on enterprise data management for engineers on 4–6 February. The event was aimed at improving their business and management skills.

About 300 participants attended sessions on Management, Strategic planning, Marketing, Business Modeling and Branding. Sheeren Shaheen, the PR and CSR manager of PepsiCo Egypt, gave an informative session about marketing and its strategies. Khaled Mokhtar talked about 'The power of I', the importance of innovation and creativity while you think about your ideas. Alaa Mustafa, business development manager at eSpace, spoke on business modeling.

After these sessions, attendees were divided into teams to produce a start-up idea, plan tasks for team members, and produce a



prototype and presentation. The teams then presented their work in front of the judges.

One of the winning ideas was Recyclha, motivating people to recycle by making it fun. They invented creative boxes in the shape of Twitter, Facebook and Android.

Asmaa Ahmed Kamal
alexshb@ieee.org

Student Branch Leuven

Protecting future power systems

ON 24 April, Student Branch Leuven organised its 10th annual symposium 'Evolutions in Power Engineering' with this year's topic 'Protection of the Future Power System'. The symposium welcomed around 120 participants, consisting of master and PhD students together with participants from industry.

The topic of power system protection was treated by five renowned speakers.

Philipp Stachel from Schneider Electric and Hans Bjorklund from ABB presented state-of-the-art relaying and measurement technology for AC and HVDC systems. Thierry Cappellet of Nexans introduced monitoring and fault location methods for underground cables. Johan Rimez and EJ Coster, respectively from Belgian TSO Elia and Dutch DNO Stedin, presented protection issues encountered in transmission and distribution grids due to integration of renewables.

Pieter Tielens

Chair, Student Branch Leuven



Ajman University of Science & Technology, UAE

UAE Student Day attracts 264

THE IEEE UAE Student Day is an annual event in which all major universities in the UAE participate, and organised by UAE Section with active support from IEEE Student Branch Counselors.

The latest edition was hosted by Ajman University of Science & Technology on 10 May. 74 project teams comprising of 264 students from 12 academic institutions actively competed in the presence of over 375 participants. A panel of 38

judges evaluated these projects.

Ajman University ranked first with seven prizes, Khalifa University (KUSTAR) second with four prizes, and American University of Sharjah (AUS) third with two prizes. UAE University (UAEU) and Petroleum Institute (PI) won a prize each. It was a well-organized event and thoroughly enjoyed.

Mustahsan Mir

Student Activities chair,
UAE Section

Caledonian College of Engineering, Oman

Renewables in focus: solar, wind, wave and geothermal

CALEDONIAN College of Engineering Student Branch organised a talk on 'Renewable Energy and Its impact in Oman' for CCE students on 11 May. Guest speaker Ajmal Johwar of Value Engineering spoke on the topic for Industrial Engineering Practicing students and Electrical Power Engineering students.

The program began with a welcome speech by Dr. Dharmasa, CCE Branch Counselor and Oman Section Membership Development officer. Nearly 40 students and staff attended the seminar. The speaker presented the types of renewable energy sources and their prospects in Oman, includ-

ing the potential strength of solar and wind energies, and different forms of wave and geothermal energy located around the geographical area of Oman and in the other parts of the world, concluding with a cost-benefit analysis of renewable energies. After the session, a memento was presented to the guest speaker by Mansoor Ali, acting HoD and Dr Sabah Abdul Wahab Sheet, Senior Faculty of Electrical Power Engineering.

Our student chapter will continue to hold such seminars by experts from academia and industry for the benefit of the CCE student community.

Pawar Dharmasa

Al Ain University of Science and Technology, UAE

Workshops on electric cars and wireless tech

AL Ain University of Science and Technology, in collaboration with UAE MTT-S Chapter and AAU Student Branch, hosted two-day international workshops in its campus in Al Ain city in UAE in February.

On the first day, Nazih Khaddaj Mallat opened the workshops and welcomed all participants. Daniela Chrenko presented a workshop entitled 'Development of Hybrid and Electric Vehicles as



Components of the Electric Grid in Europe' in which she explained the rising importance of electric cars in Europe as they are considered a promising transportation solution.

The second day's workshop

was entitled 'Wireless Technologies and Applications: Past, Present, and Future', conducted by Ke Wu who highlighted the success that wireless applications have had commercially in the areas of data transmission, wireless sensing and wireless power.

Nazih Khaddaj Mallat

IEEE UAE MTT-S Chapter chair
and IEEE AAU Student Branch
counselor