

## V/C Technical Activities

**Igor Kuzle**

### Goals

- 1) Chapter's vitality in the R8. Main indicator is reducing the number of inactive chapters in the Region 8.
- 2) Increase the participation of industrials in the conferences. Main indicator is statistical data about the participants from the industry in the final reports of the R8 flagship conferences.
- 3) Creating a Region 8 portal for pre-university and university educational activities and providing education through Webinars. Indicators are the websites visits counter and the number of participants of the webinars.
- 4) Improving interaction with section's industry ambassadors and young professionals. Indicators are the number of industry focused events in the R8 sections.

### Status and Past Contributions

The ChCSC has received and reviewed a number of new chapter applications, most of these came from student branches. This reflects the good work and effort of this committee in attracting student branch chapters. The CoCSC has processed a number of technical and financial sponsorship requests. The bids for EUROCON 2017 and AFRICON 2017 are currently being considered. The EASC has continued organizing and supporting teacher in service program (TISP) and EPICS-in-IEEE workshops throughout the Region 8. IEEE Academic project is being promoted and used. Region 8 IAs contacted all IEEE Senior Members and Fellows in the Region 8 to recognize members from industry. Based on IAs reports Afi identify and list all IEEE Senior Members and Fellows from industry in R8 and introduce Section Industry Ambassadors (SIAs) in the R8 sections. The standards coordinator acts as point of contact between the Region 8 and the IEEE-SA and the standards education committee (SEC). Various talks and workshops on standards are being held in the region.

### Outlook

The VCF's \$10,000 annual budget is almost exhausted this year. Fortunately, we have been assured by the R8 Treasurer (confirmed by the R8 Director) that within reason, we should be able to award further worthy applications for VCF grants this year, even if we go slightly above the budget.

### Points of Concern

- 1) ChCSC will assist chapters and students chapters in operational matters and/or difficulties (activities, elections, reporting, member development, and cross sectional collaboration). Revitalize inactive Chapters by dealing with existing problems in local level and help them to find new progressive leaders. These activities is crucial for the sections vitality.
- 2) VC for TA with CoCSC will support of organization of industry based conferences (less scientific topics, involving more peoples from industry in organizing committees, allowing participation only with presentations without writing papers etc.). Our team will help in creation some special session for industry participants at the R8 flagship conferences. The strategic priorities of R8 is improvement relationships with industry and this activity will help to achieve that goal.
- 3) EASC team will organize Continuous Education webinars series mainly oriented to Young Professionals with synergy to Industry related topics joining students-young-active professionals technical (or management/social) related activities. These activity fits into the strategic priorities of the R8.
- 4) Afi will encourage Section Industry Ambassadors and Section Chairs to contact their Industry Senior Members and Fellows to establish contact with their respective companies.

### Points of Concern

- In some cases, because of local habits, it is very difficult to replace inactive leader with new one.
- Administrative fee of US\$1000 for R8 Technical Co-Sponsorship plus US\$15 for each paper that goes in IEEE Xplore can cause decreasing of number of cosponsored conferences in IEEE R8 in the future. This can cause increasing of non-IEEE sponsored conferences with lower scientific quality. These conferences can become attractive to participants from industry resulting in more imbalances in ratio of IEEE academia/industry members.