



Region 8

GOLD Book

2008 - 2009 - 2010



region 8
IEEE 8 

Authors

E															
D															
I	E	E	E	R	8	G	O	L	D	T	E	A	M		
T												h			
O						S						m			
R						a						e			
S				N	e	l	e	R	e	y	n	d	e	R	s
						i						G		a	
						m						a		f	
						a						m		a	
						K						a		l	
						a						l		S	
						i								l	
						s								i	
						s								z	
	J	o	ã	o	F	i	g	u	e	i	r	a	s		

Contents

1	<i>Forewords</i>	6
	Region 8 Director.....	6
	Region 8 Vice-Chair Member Activities.....	7
<hr/>		
2	<i>Introduction</i>	8
<hr/>		
3	<i>R8 GOLD Committee</i>	10
	Officers 2008 - 2011	10
	Goals of committee	11
	Meetings and activities	12
	Membership numbers.....	18
	Best practices	18
	Recommendations.....	18
<hr/>		
4	<i>R8 GOLD Affinity Group Reports</i>	19
	Questions asked to each AG chair	19
<hr/>		
5	<i>R8 GOLD AG Activities Summaries</i>	20
	Benelux	20
	Bosnia & Herzegovina.....	21
	Croatia.....	22
	Czechoslovakia	25
	Egypt.....	26
	Finland	31
	France.....	38
	Germany.....	39
	Greece	39
	Italy	41
	Kenya	43
	Lebanon.....	43
	Nigeria.....	44
	Portugal.....	45
	Russia - Siberia	45
	Saudi-Arabia - East.....	46
	South Africa - North.....	47
	South Africa - South.....	48
	Tunisia.....	49
	Turkey	51
	United Arab Emirates.....	51

United Kingdom & Republic of Ireland	53
--	----

6 R8 GOLD AG Successful Stories 55

Benelux	55
Bosnia & Herzegovina.....	55
Croatia.....	56
Czechoslovakia	57
Denmark.....	58
Egypt.....	59
Finland	60
France.....	60
Italy	60
Jordan.....	63
Kenya	63
Lebanon.....	63
Morocco	64
Nigeria.....	64
Portugal.....	66
Russia - Siberia	66
Saudi-Arabia - East.....	67
South Africa - North.....	67
South Africa - South.....	68
Spain	68
Tunisia.....	69
Turkey	69
United Kingdom & Republic of Ireland	69

7 R8 GOLD AG Failing Stories 71

Croatia.....	71
Egypt.....	71
Finland	72
France.....	72
Italy	72
Lebanon.....	72
Morocco	73
Nigeria.....	73
Portugal.....	74
Russia - Siberia	74
Saudi-Arabia - East.....	75
South Africa - North.....	75
South Africa - South.....	76
Spain	76
Turkey	76
United Kingdom & Republic of Ireland	76

8 R8 GOLD AG Main Problems 77

Benelux	77
Bosnia & Herzegovina	77
Croatia	78
Czechoslovakia	78
Denmark	79
Egypt	79
Finland	79
France	80
Germany	80
Greece	81
Italy	81
Kenya	81
Lebanon	81
Morocco	82
Nigeria	82
Portugal	83
Russia - Siberia	83
Saudi-Arabia - East	84
South Africa - North	84
South Africa - South	85
Spain	85
Tunisia	86
Turkey	86
United Kingdom & Republic of Ireland	86

9 R8 GOLD AG Future Plans 87

Benelux	87
Bosnia & Herzegovina	87
Croatia	88
Czechoslovakia	89
Denmark	89
Egypt	89
Finland	90
France	90
Germany	91
Greece	91
Italy	91
Kenya	92
Lebanon	92
Morocco	93
Nigeria	93
Portugal	95
Russia - Siberia	95
Saudi-Arabia - East	96
South Africa - North	96

South Africa - South.....	97
Spain	97
Tunisia.....	97
Turkey	98
United Kingdom & Republic of Ireland	98
<hr/>	
10 R8 GOLD AG STEP & Humanitarian Events ...	100
General Information.....	100
Events held in Region 8	101
<hr/>	
11 R8 GOLD AGs & Chairpersons 2011	102
<hr/>	
12 R8 GOLD Award Winners	104
2008.....	104
2009.....	104
2010.....	105
2011.....	105
<hr/>	
13 IEEE Day	106
<hr/>	
14 GOLD Around the World	108
<hr/>	
15 Conclusion	109
<hr/>	

Forewords

Region 8 Director

The first years after graduation can be very challenging for young professionals. In 1996, IEEE Graduates of the Last Decade (GOLD) was created as a membership program to help students transition to young professionals. Today, IEEE GOLD is a vibrant community of engineers, scientists, and technical experts with member representation across the globe and throughout IEEE societies.

This book focuses on the activities of the GOLD volunteers and teams throughout IEEE Region 8 (Europe, Middle East and Africa) and stands as a testimony of the dedication and accomplishments of the IEEE Region 8 GOLD team.

The activities of the Region 8 GOLD team in the last three years were paramount for the success and growth of professional networking of recent graduates in the Region. Their activities have dealt with transitioning from school to workplace, with professional growth and career development, and have supported numerous IEEE members going through significant life transformations in their early careers.

Moreover, the enthusiasm of the Region 8 GOLD team has often been an inspiration to all volunteers in the Region and has significantly contributed to the overall success of Region 8, its volunteers and members.

I am very honoured to have worked with this incredible group and am exceptionally proud of their accomplishments.

Marko Delimar
IEEE Region 8 Director



Region 8 Vice-Chair Member Activities

It was indeed a real pleasure as Region 8 Vice Chair for Member Activities to work with the group responsible for compiling and editing this book. The 2011 Region 8 GOLD team are a bunch of dedicated volunteers who have given tremendous amounts of time and effort to further the goals of IEEE in Region 8. It is my firm belief that it is through their dedication and sincere work with the GOLD teams in the various sections that GOLD activities have flourished and expanded.

This book chronicles the work done by many enthusiastic and diverse group of IEEE GOLD volunteers across Region 8 over the last three years. It clearly shows the diversity that is a clear mark of the region through the different approaches taken by the volunteers to push forward the idea that IEEE stands for. It is hoped that the book will first serve as testimony to this great group of people and will also provide current and future GOLDies with a source of ideas and experience that they can build on and utilize. I also hope that the book will inspire IEEE volunteers at all levels.

Ali El-Mousa
IEEE Region 8 Vice-Chair Member Activities



Introduction

The GOLD Book is a project launched in 2010 with the purpose of creating a legacy about the activities that have been organized by GOLD Affinity Groups (AG) around Region 8. Though compiled and edited during 2010, this book was never officially published during that year. For this reason, during 2011 the Region 8 GOLD subcommittee decided to extend the book's content and span it from 2008 to 2010. The scope of the book is not only to present the activities of the AGs, but also to show their well-succeeded and failing experiences. Special focus was given to GOLD oriented programs, such as the Student Transition & Elevation Partnership (STEP) and the Humanitarian Workshop (HW).

The content of the book was obtained by direct contact with the local AG chairs whom have been encouraged to submit a structured report. The report consisted in several questions aiming at summarizing AGs operation. The questions were then adequately arranged in order to give this book its final format. Thus, the book is separated by topics and each topic is separated by AG and year. The topics are:

- **Events:** lists the events that have been organized by each AG and summarizes the main lines of each one of the activities;
- **STEP program:** summarizes the details of the STEP events that have been organized. The GOLD AGs have been asked to specify the content of the event and to give clear insight on the dates and number of attendees;
- **Humanitarian Workshop:** summarizes the details of HWs that may have been organized in the local AGs;
- **Successful stories:** Stories of success and accomplishment are stated in this section. The purpose is to identify the best practices that drive AGs towards fruitful and rich content organizations;
- **Failing stories:** In many cases the AGs do not succeed in organizing their events, in operating smoothly their committees or fundraising their activities. For this reason, this section aims at spotting such cases so that further work can be performed at IEEE in a global perspective;
- **Main problems:** This section though similar to the previous one aims at identifying the issues that each AG faces, despite the success of their activities;
- **Future plans:** Gives some insight on the planning of activities in the AG and the continuation of the AGs as organizational units.

Regarding AGs operation, Region 8 has seen much activity spanning from technical to professional and social events. The GOLD oriented programs have been proving to be a good platform for well establishment of GOLD in local sections. The STEP event is currently organized in several AGs and in some of them it is organized even more than once a year. The HW, since it is not yet presented as a closed package, it has not been organized as frequent as it would be desired. During 2010, it has been organized only twice. Regarding success stories, reports typically mention the success of events with higher participation than expected and good feedback from attendees. The failing stories are commonly related to difficulty in sustaining the continuity of the GOLD committees and fundraise.

With the content of the current book, the editors expect that it will serve future volunteers and committees so that they can learn and take advantage of these experiences in order to enrich and enlarge their activities in local AGs. Additionally, it is expected that some of these details enlighten what members expect IEEE to deliver to them, and ultimately drive some of the strategic direction of IEEE as a worldwide organization.

R8 GOLD Committee

Officers 2008 - 2011

	Chair	Past Chair	Member	Member	Member
2008	 Eva Lang	 Pilar Molina Gaudó	 João Figueiras		
2009	 João Figueiras	 Eva Lang	 Emre Ayranci	 Nahel Muhammad	
2010	 João Figueiras	 Eva Lang	 Salima Kaissi	 Nahel Muhammad	
2011	 Salima Kaissi	 João Figueiras	 Nele Reynders	 Rafal Sliz	 Ahmed Gamal

Goals of committee

2008

GOLD activities will continue to have a tremendous momentum on Region 8 activities:

- Support and move the Affinity Groups;
- Edit R8 GOLD Newsletter / R8 Gazette;
- Be present in R8 News;
- Be web present;
- Continue with the Transition Project proposed by MGA GOLD Committee;
- Do a membership benefits survey;
- Motivate more GOLDies to stay, join and be active.

2009

GOLD activities will continue to have a tremendous momentum on Region 8 activities:

- Support and move the GOLD Affinity Groups (AGs) in the Region;
- Edit R8 GOLD Newsletter / R8 Gazette;
- Be present in R8 News and GOLDRush;
- Be web present;
- Motivate more GOLDies to stay, join and be active – MGA GOLD has pledged close interactivity with Membership Development, so we are right along the lines;
- Continue with the Student Transition & Elevation Partnership (STEP) program proposed by MGA GOLD Committee.

2010

GOLD activities will continue to have a tremendous momentum on Region 8 activities. We will:

- Create, support and energize the GOLD Affinity Groups (AGs) in R8;
- Develop and strengthen the “IEEE Day” program in 2010 and initiate for 2011;
- Continue with the Student Transition & Elevation Partnership (STEP) program;
- Foster Humanitarian Activities in R8;
- Motivate more GOLDies to stay, join and be active in IEEE;
- Contribute to GOLD Rush, R8 News;
- Be web present.

2011

GOLD Committee will focus on its continuous involvement in increasing the GOLD visibility and will continue to have a tremendous momentum on Region 8 activities.

We will:

- Support and energize the GOLD Affinity Groups (AGs) in R8;
- Create new Affinity Groups and Revive dormant ones;
- Launch the first official edition of the R8 GOLD Book;
- Continue with the Student Transition & Elevation Partnership (STEP) program;
- Promote and raise awareness of the Humanitarian workshop Program;
- Motivate more GOLDies to join and be active in IEEE;
- Organize regular online meetings with GOLD Chairs in R8;
- Launch the Region 8 GOLD Outstanding Activity Award for 2011;
- Develop cross-activities with other committees in R8;
- Contribute to GOLDRush and R8News;
- Keep an updated website;
- Be Social Networks present.

Meetings and activities

2008

Meetings

Eva attended the MGA GOLD Meeting in Louisville, Kentucky on Feb 14-15, 2008.

Several online meetings were held through Skype, being both strategic planning of the committee members as well as a call including all Affinity Group Chairs and GOLD Section representatives around Region 8.

The face-to-face meetings of 2008:

- ◆ R8Com Meeting in Malta
- ◆ R8 Student Branch & GOLD Congress, London, UK&RI Section
- ◆ R8Com Meeting in Quebec
- ◆ 1st GOLD Summit in Quebec along with Sections Congress

Activities

- GOLD Committee Meetings held along with the Regional Meetings in Sofia, Bulgaria, and Bucharest, Romania
- GOLD Summer Working Retreat held in Zaragoza, Spain

- ◆ Online conference with all R8 GOLD AG Chairs to meet and great and tackle specific problems
- ◆ Strategic planning for 2008-09
- Region 8 GOLD Congress was held in London, August 2008 along with the Student Branch Congress (SBC). There were 35 attendees for the GOLD track.
- GOLD Committee online conferences:
 - ◆ IEEE.tv contribution by Region 8 GOLD is tentative. There were zero replies from the R8 GOLD members.
 - ◆ “Volunteer Greenhouse” proposal was a failure as it overlaps with existing projects according to NIC. No enthusiasm to reform / change the project.
- Affinity Groups / Section GOLD:
 - ◆ Contacted Section Chairs, AG Chairs, and Section GOLD Coordinators
 - ◆ Newly formed GOLD AGs in 2007:
 - Greece
 - Italy
 - Lebanon
- Continued contributions to R8News
- Website update still in progress

2009

Meetings

Face-to-face meetings:

- ◆ April 25-26, 2009 – R8 GOLD committee meeting in Venice, Italy
- ◆ May 15-16, 2009 – MGA GOLD meeting in New Jersey, USA
- ◆ October 10-11, 2009 – R8 GOLD committee meeting in Lisbon, Portugal

Several online meetings were held through Skype, being both strategic planning of the committee members as well as a call including all Affinity Group Chairs around Region 8:

- ◆ January 13, 2009 – R8 GOLD committee strategic meeting
- ◆ February 4, 2009 – Meeting with R8 GOLD AG chairs (12 officers were present)

Constant and continuous communication is kept active among GOLD AG chairs in Region 8 and also between GOLD AG chairs and Region 8 GOLD committee members.

Activities

- Online meetings through Skype:
 - ◆ January 13, 2009 – R8 GOLD committee strategic meeting
 - Strategic meeting for defining the plan for 2009
 - ◆ February 4, 2009 – Meeting with R8 GOLD AG chairs
 - 12 officers were present
- R8 GOLD Outstanding Activity Award:
 - ◆ Definition of the scope of the award to be launched in 2010
- GOLD around the world (IEEE's 125th anniversary celebration)
 - ◆ Event closed on December 31, 2009
 - ◆ Final cut finalized together with [ieee.tv](http://www.goldaroundtheworld.com)
 - ◆ <http://www.goldaroundtheworld.com>
- STEP program:
 - ◆ Organized in several AGs. See AG reports.
- Technical, Professional and Social activities organized all over R8 GOLD AGs
- Website has been updated
- Continued contributions to R8News
 - ◆ Several contributions from several sections: France, Portugal, Greece, Benelux, Egypt

2010

Meetings

Face-to-face meeting:

- May 7-9, 2010 – R8 GOLD committee meeting in Riga, Latvia
- May 22-23, 2010 – MGA GOLD meeting in New Jersey, USA
- August 4-8, 2010 – Student Branch and GOLD Congress, Leuven, Belgium
- October 9-10, 2010 – R8 GOLD committee meeting in Prague, Czech Republic

Several online meetings were held through Skype, being both strategic planning of the committee members as well as a call including all Affinity Group Chairs around Region 8. Most of the meetings have been to define strategy and ongoing work related to the “IEEE Day”. Constant and continuous communication is kept active among GOLD AG chairs in Region 8 and also between GOLD AG chairs and Region 8 GOLD committee members.

Activities

- Online meeting through Skype concerning:
 - ◆ GOLD AGs
 - ◆ IEEE Day
- R8 GOLD Outstanding Activity Award:
 - ◆ Awarded to Nigeria GOLD AG
- New Affinity Groups in 2010:
 - ◆ Portugal – chair João Canas
 - ◆ Kenya – chair Kelvin Singoei
 - ◆ Tunisia – chair Ikram Moalla
- IEEE Day (October 7&8, 2010):
 - ◆ Project winner of 2010 MGA challenge
 - ◆ Webpage established <http://www.ieeeday.org/>
 - ◆ Social networking established: <http://www.facebook.com/IEEEDay>, <http://www.linkedin.com/e/-hpti07-gbxmew4w-6c/vgh/3240378/>
 - ◆ Around 100 events scheduled worldwide during IEEE Day
- STEP program:
 - ◆ October 7, 2010 – Lisbon, Portugal
 - ◆ October 7, 2010 – Cape Town, South Africa
 - ◆ October 7, 2010 – Beirut, Lebanon
 - ◆ June 15, 2010 – Zagreb, Croatia
 - ◆ March 26, 2010 - Nigeria
- Humanitarian Workshop:
 - ◆ Hagen, Germany, August 28, 2010
- Student Branch and GOLD congress:
 - ◆ Held in London, October 4-8, 2010
 - ◆ Participation of nearly 30 delegates
- Technical, Professional and Social activities organized all over R8 GOLD AGs
- Website has been updated
- Continued contributions to R8News
 - ◆ Several contributions from several sections and region level
- Start preparing GOLD Summit 2011
 - ◆ San Francisco, CA, USA

2011

Meetings

- Regular online meetings with the GOLD committee members and the Region 8 Vice-Chair Member Activities
- Regular meetings with IEEE Day Team, lead by the Region 8 GOLD committee
- 1st online meeting through Skype with R8 GOLD Chairs – Feb 23, 2011:
 - ◆ R8 GOLD activities in Europe
- 2nd online meeting through Skype with R8 GOLD Chairs – Feb 25, 2011
 - ◆ R8 GOLD activities in Africa and Middle East
- 3rd online meeting through Skype with R8 GOLD Chairs – May 10, 2011

Activities (as for July 2011)

- March 25 – 27, 2011, Region 8 Meeting, London, United Kingdom
- Close coordination and support to the Affinity Groups
- The Region 8 GOLD Committee is leading the IEEE Day 2011 organization, in coordination with MGA
- GOLD Book is ready and will be distributed at the R8 meeting in San Francisco
- IEEE GOLD Affinity Group Hall of Fame Award:
 - ◆ Awarded to Finland GOLD AG
- R8 GOLD Outstanding Activity Award 2011:
 - ◆ Awarded to Egypt GOLD AG
- Reviving inactive GOLD Affinity Groups:
 - ◆ Morocco – Chair Imade Benelallam
 - ◆ Sweden – Chair Amir Zahoor
 - ◆ Benelux – Chair Valentijn De Smedt
 - ◆ Jordan – Chair Mohammad Salah
- Support the establishment of new GOLD Affinity Groups:
 - ◆ Sweden – Chair Amir Zahoor
 - ◆ Switzerland – Chair Mihai Prundaru
- IEEE R8 GOLD Social Network Pages:
 - ◆ <http://www.facebook.com/r8gold>
 - ◆ <http://www.linkedin.com/groups?gid=3762315>
 - ◆ <http://twitter.com/r8gold>
- STEP program:
 - ◆ Istanbul, Turkey, February 2011
 - ◆ Croatia, March 2011

- ◆ Fez, Morocco, March 2011
- ◆ Beirut, Lebanon, July 2011
- Technical, professional & social activities organized by R8 GOLD AGs
 - ◆ One of the most important: the Graduate Forum by GOLD UAE AG, Held in Dubai, February 20, 2011 (<http://www.ieeegcc.org/gcc/graduate-forum.html>)
 - ◆ GOLD Session, March 16, 2011 – ME-SBC, Doha, Qatar
 - ◆ 2 Days GOLD Workshop, Iraq, April 2011
 - ◆ IEEE Leadership Workshop, May 14 – Stockholm, Sweden
 - ◆ First Lego League Competition, Egypt (www.fleggypt.org)
 - ◆ Made in Egypt Competition, Egypt (www.ieeegoldegypt.org/MIE)
 - ◆ Summer School of Innovation, July 19-23, Sousse, Tunisia (<http://sci2011.ieee-enis.org/>)
 - ◆ ISaCoNaS Summer School, July 25-30, Italy (<http://isaconas-workshop.uniroma2.it>)
 - ◆ Get-Together Event, July 28 - Cap Town, South Africa (http://meetings.vtools.ieee.org/meeting_view/list_meeting/7611)
- The new Region 8 GOLD website is being updated
- Continued contributions to R8News and GOLDRush

Activities in the near future

- Preparing GOLD recommendations for Sections Congress 2011
- Continued contributions to R8News and GOLDRush
- Working on establishment of new GOLD AGs
 - ◆ Qatar during ME-SBC
 - ◆ Contact of all Sections Chairs with no GOLD AG
- Working on reactivating dormant GOLD AGs
 - ◆ Russia
- The Committee members will attend the GOLD Meeting, the GOLD Summit, the R8 and the Sections Congress, August 17– 22, San Francisco, U.S.
- The Region 8 GOLD Committee will be present at the UKRI SBC, September 3-4 - London, United Kingdom
- The Region 8 GOLD Committee will be present at the Egyptian Engineering Day, September 6-7 - Cairo, Egypt (www.eed2011.org)
- Coordination of the MGA assistance funding for the Sections Congress in R8
- Coordination of the STEP session organization at the IEEE Region 8 & Turkey Presidents, February 10 - Istanbul, Turkey
- Coordination of the STEP session organization at ME-SBC, March 15-18 - Doha, Qatar

Membership numbers

GOLD members are identified by their first university degree. Thus GOLD includes Graduate Student Members, Members, and Senior Members.

As shown in the table below, GOLD Member Numbers increased remarkably, the number of active GOLD members went from 5,185 in the first quarter of 2009 to 11,631 active GOLD members in July 2011, such progress of 124%. However, the number of arrears has increased as well, from 1,358 to 5,053 for the same period.

R8 GOLD membership	July 3, 2011	February 28, 2011	September 29, 2010	April 17, 2010	September 18, 2009	March 24, 2009
Active	11,631	9,202	12,617	8,795	10,411	5,185
Arrears	5,053	5,270	4,839	4,343	3,150	1,358

Best practices

- GOLD Affinity Group chairs support formation of GOLD AGs in neighbouring sections.
- GOLD members lectures at Student Branches (SB).
- GOLD Affinity Groups Chairs knowledge and experience exchange thanks to regular Skype meetings and social networks.

Recommendations

- Identify good young volunteers, get them involved and train them to take on positions within the IEEE.
- Involve GOLD members in Section work, such as recruiting new members, reaching out to younger members, etc.
- Nominate the local GOLD Affinity Group for regional and global awards.
- Organize the STEP program as a means to retain members and foster membership development.
- Organize Humanitarian Workshops.
- Organize joint activities with Students.
- Be web present and raise the AG visibility locally and globally.
- Encourage local GOLD AG to take part of regular R8 online meetings for GOLD Chairs and to share experience and events via R8 GOLD Social Networks pages, R8 News and GOLDRush.

R8 GOLD Affinity Group Reports

Questions asked to each AG chair

The following questions were asked to all AG chairs and the answers will be shown in further sections.

Question 1)

Which events were organized in your AG (seminars; talks; social gatherings; programming contests; conferences...)? If possible mention date and any further detail that you may find useful.

Question 2)

Was the STEP program organized in your AG? When? How many attendees?

Question 3)

Were humanitarian events held in your AG? When?

Question 4)

Tell us about successful stories within your GOLD Affinity Group.

Question 5)

Tell us about failing stories that your Affinity Group has experienced.

Question 6)

Which are the main problems that you are facing within your AG?

Question 7)

Which are the future plans within your AG?

R8 GOLD AG Activities Summaries

Benelux 2009

Social networking; Midsummer night celebration weekend 19-21 June

Members of the IEEE Benelux Section GOLD group celebrated the longest day of the year at a weekend-long festival on 19-21 June organized by Emre Ayranci, Benelux Section's professional activities & GOLD chairman.

The celebration in Utrecht Griffpark, which was organized in collaboration with the Couchsurfing Community in Utrecht, featured live acoustic music, a murder mystery game staged by the medieval core of Utrecht, the Netherlands, a midsummer night ceremony and several workshops.

The festival was a "zero budget" event, with everything prepared by volunteers. On Sunday, the GOLD Benelux Committee hosted a Benelux section GOLD members meeting, spiced up by a Latin dancing workshop. The event, which concluded with the lighting of lanterns sent aloft into the night sky, was a warm up for the next GOLD weekend, being prepared for the fall of 2009 by GOLD Benelux in Ghent, Belgium, featuring several technical and non-technical training sessions and social networking opportunities.

GOLD Weekend, effective mixture of activities

The IEEE Benelux section and the IEEE Ghent Student Branch held a Benelux GOLD weekend event on 27-28 November, 2009 in the beautiful city of Ghent. The program offered workshops on the soft and technical skills needed by young professionals as well as a unique opportunity for networking.

After an opening reception to welcome new graduates within the Benelux section as a part of the IEEE STEP program, SSCS President Willy Sansen presented a talk about SSCS. Then Margaretha Eriksson, a consultant and founder of Irbis Konsult and IEEE Region 8 Professional Activities Training Program co-founder and trainer, presented two workshops on career development and project management, followed by a talk entitled "High Speed Career in a Flat World" by Pravesh Kumar, Product Marketing Manager at ASML, The Netherlands.

In the technical section of the program, Cedric Mélange of Ghent University/IMEC talked on Burst-mode IC design for next-generation optical access.

Social activities included a city tour of Gent on foot and by boat, with a brewery visit and dinner at a restaurant in one of the oldest and most gastronomic neighborhoods of Ghent.

2010

Student Branch and GOLD congress 2010

The Region 8 Student Branch and GOLD Congress 2010 was organised in Leuven from 4-8 August 2010. The entire congress had 304 attendees (organisation committee included) and a separate GOLD track with GOLD workshops was organised.

Bosnia & Herzegovina

2009

GOLDies meet with students

Two social gatherings of GOLD members (first in April 2009 and second in December 2009) with some Student members also taking part in.

Seminars for fresh GOLDies

A lecture held by Adnan Basic, IEEE GSM, Petrolinvest Engineering, Design and Construction of Industrial Plants.

Title: Advantages and Obstacles of a Transition Process “from a School Bench to Industry”.

Venue: University of Sarajevo, Faculty of Electrical Engineering.

Date: November 2009.

2010

Social gathering

One social gathering of GOLD members (in May 2010) with some Student members also taking part in.

1st Safety – Symposium

Faculty of Electrical Engineering, University of Sarajevo and B&H GOLD AG, in cooperation with University of Kassel, Department of Electrical Engineering / Computer Science, TÜV Rheinland and HIMA, organized 1st Safety – Symposium, devoted to SIS (Safety Instrumented Systems) with emphasis on their hardware and software development, testing, certification, and applications in Oil industry.

Local IEEEExtreme 4.0 competition

Held at the Faculty of Electrical Engineering in Sarajevo (October 23rd 2010).

Croatia

2009

Interesting topics for IEEE GOLD Members, GOLD lectures Series:

- 23.03.2009. Nuclear Medicine Images - Acquisition, Image Processing and Diagnostic Analyses
- 12.05.2009. How and why organize a scientific conference
- 16.11.2009. How to develop new products and how to become an entrepreneur
- 23.11.2009. Impact Factor and Scientific Promotions
- 25.11.2009. How to link academic community, corporation and entrepreneurship: a local example

Exemplary STEP Event

STEP event was organized at 23rd September 2009. There were around 50 attendees and the following lectures were held:

- “Fear and Loathing in Software Startup”
- “The Firm: Work Experience in Big Company”
- “ITI Student Lab”

More details about the event can be found in:

December 2009 issues of R8 news:

http://www.ewh.ieee.org/reg/8/news/issues/r8news_dec09.pdf

and December 2009 issues of GOLDRush:

http://www.ieee.org/portal/cms_docs_iportals/iportals/membership/gold/newsletter/goldrush_newsletter_december_2009.pdf



2010

STEP events

The main activities of GOLD AG Croatia were focused on STEP events. During 2010 we have organized 4 STEP events (two in Zagreb and two in Osijek). Each STEP was organized in two parts: (1) at least one talk on a specific topic with discussion and (2) informal social gathering, with snacks and drinks, for further discussions and/or networking between IEEE members and other attendees.

Four STEP events were organized in 2010. All of them were workshops organized in two parts: the lecture on a specific topic with a discussion and a social networking afterwards. We put great effort into finding topics which are very interesting to students and young professionals and also ensuring an interactive environment (not ex cathedra lectures) with a lot of questions and fruitful discussions in a friendly, informal environment.

STEP Two, University of Zagreb, Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computing, 15 June 2010

The workshop was focused on topics about the personal professional development and how to preserve self-competitiveness in a fast-changing technological environment. After the introductory short presentation of IEEE and its benefits, three invited speakers from the industry shared their knowledge and experiences from different perspectives.

Ms Martina Bajš in talk “Personal competitiveness – what to keep in mind when looking for a job?” depicted the importance of motivation and clear vision of personal goals when looking for a job, as well as the importance of an on-going learning for the young professional’s career. She also gave some good advice for writing a high quality CV and presenting one-self on a job interview.

Mr Ninoslav Cerkez focused on the problems of keeping the track in a fast-changing technological environment in a talk “Personal development – staying competitive in IT industry“. Based on the speaker’s personal experience, participants had an opportunity to hear all about good and bad moves when building the career.

Mr Marko Sladoljev gave a talk “Seven years later“ about his own career, sharing his experience about the companies, situations and circumstances which can influence your choices and decisions.

Attendees: 35 (14 IEEE members and 21 non-members)

STEP One Osijek, University of Osijek, Faculty of Electrical Engineering Osijek, 3 November 2010

The workshop was focused on benefits and drawbacks of working in a big or small company, presented by two invited speakers.

Tomislav Pokrajcic in talk “Fear and Loathing in Software Startup” depicted benefits and drawbacks of a small startup company, sharing his experience of both being an employee in a private company and starting his own business.

Ana Katalinic, in talk “The Firm - Work Experience in Big Company”, shared her experience from a big company, giving also some thoughts about an onset in career.

The same topic given from two different sides of view provoked very interesting and fruitful discussion during the social networking with snacks and drinks. This was also an opportunity to promote IEEE and its actions.

Attendees: 21 (12 IEEE members and 9 non-members).

STEP Christmas Osijek, University of Osijek, Faculty of Electrical Engineering Osijek, 21 December 2010

The workshop was organized in two parts: the first one was a lecture and the second social networking.

The talk “How to apply Google technologies in science and business?” was given by Mr Zoran Balkic (ETF). From his own experience, Mr Balkic showed how Google technologies can improve and facilitate everyday work of students, professors and business people. The presentation was very interesting and it is planned to have more workshops based on Google technologies in future. After the presentation, Christmas party with drinks and pizza was organized for all participants.

Attendees: 23 (17 IEEE members and 6 non-member)

STEP Christmas Zagreb, University of Zagreb, Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computing, 21 December 2010

The intention was to organize an easy going Christmas event for students and young professionals, where they would have an opportunity to learn about IEEE, meet some members and simply have a good time. However, we recognized this as an opportunity to talk (share experience and give some guidelines) about one very important aspect of one’s professional life, and that is the social networking. So, we decided to bring “business” and pleasure together: in a very relaxed environment with Christmas songs, snacks and drinks we organized a short talk and a quiz about social networking.

Mr Marko Lacković, IBM and IEEE Croatia Section Industrial Relations Chair, gave talk about the importance of social networking in every person's professional life and how your own network of contacts can affect your current and future career. Based on his wide experience, he gave some "tricks and tips" for successful networking, but also pointed out some common mistakes which should be avoided. This motivated a number of questions and a discussion, especially about advantages of good social skills and possibilities to learn or gain some for those who don't have them.

We also prepared a short quiz about IEEE and social networking, with appropriate awards. We encouraged everyone to stay, socialize and practice "lessons learned" about social networking. We ended in a very good mood, with happy faces and a lot of positive feedback.

Attendees: 23 (16 IEEE members and 7 non-member)

Moderated discussion after a pre-recorded lecture

We have also organized a discussion session based on pre-recorded TEDx lecture "A kinder, gentler philosophy of success" by Alain de Betton. We wanted to explore the possibility of organizing an event without a speaker (for cases where, for any reason, you are not able to bring a speaker), i.e. replacing the speaker with a pre-recorded lecture or a movie, with a moderated discussion afterwards. This event was for invited persons only and was attended by 7 GOLDies and students. The general conclusion was that this kind of events might be very successful, but the topic and the video have to be chosen really carefully. The topic should be intriguing, interesting and/or controversial in order to have a fruitful discussion and the video should (preferably) last less than 20 minutes because it is harder to keep the attention of the audience when there is no interaction between the speaker and the audience.

GOLD AG Meetings

01.03.2010, 20.04.2010, 12.10.2010 (regular meetings); 03.09.2010, 16.12.2010 (joint meetings with Student Branch Zagreb). Intensive work has been done via mailing group, especially preparatory work for STEP events.

Czechoslovakia

2009

Dealing with technical information; introduction for GOLD members.

A seminar on "Selected Topics in Copyright and Author Law" was organized in Brno in December. Its attendance was higher than expected. Another seminar "IEEE/IET Electronic Library for Czech Universities" was held in June.

2010

GOLD talk

One GOLD talk was done at the beginning of December (2010-12-08) addressed to graduate student members and non-member students with Martin Slanina as a speaker. The speaker promoted the GOLD AG and informed the people about its existence and what the AG can offer.

GOLD AG Social Meeting

2010-12-20, an informal meeting to bring together the local GOLD members.

Egypt

2009

Annual GOLD dinner

The event was held in Nile Hilton in Cairo in April 2009. This Dinner is organized annually as a conclusion celebration of the GOLD activities during the year. We had the privilege of the attendance of H.E Dr. Tarek Kamel, Minister of Communication and IT, H.E. Dr Ahmed Darwish, Minister of State for Administrative Development and H.E. Dr. Hani Helal, Minister of Higher Education. We also invited all our sponsors and distributed the prizes to the winning projects in the EED'08 and MIE'08.

Training for volunteers

Soft-Skills training delivered for GOLD volunteers with support from Vodafone Egypt. This training was held to develop the soft skills of all GOLD Volunteers. Vodafone Egypt hosted the training at its premises in Smart Village, Egypt and sponsored the expenses of the trainers. Training was attended by 40 GOLD volunteers and executives.

The importance of social activities, Annual GOLD Iftar:

During the holy month of Ramadan, the GOLD group in Egypt organized a social Iftar gathering. This event was attended also by members of the IEEE Egypt section. Total attendees were 34.

Industries with universities in one place; Egyptian Engineering Day

During August 2009 with a focus on University-Industry link, small and medium enterprises, human and entrepreneurial development in the engineering field, the IEEE Egypt GOLD, is setting up the yearly Egyptian Engineering Day conference, EED for short, and expo which includes:

- Graduation Projects Expo.
- Special interests forums highlighting new market trends and business
- Opportunities with focus on the exquisite each interest might need.
- Orientation on how to start-up your business.
- Entrepreneurship, management, and soft skills workshops given by training professionals.

Under the auspicious of H.E. Dr. Ahmed Darwish, Minister of State for Administrative Development, as the Honorary Chair, this conference is reached 800 Professionals, 3500 undergraduates, 250 Graduation projects and a number of well-known public figures in the engineering field. An indirect impact is expected to be more than 20,000 of engineering students all over the Egyptian universities. This event, which was the 8th in a row, emphasized:

- Encouraging Egyptian youth to be proactive and give them the chance to participate in the society development.
- Encouraging entrepreneurship concept between the youth and implementing practical road maps and training programs that help them to develop their own business.
- Encouraging research and development depending on industry and society needs.
- Participating in creating technology centres inside universities.
- Developing programs and implementing successful models for cooperation between industry and university keeping all win situations.

Develop prototypes for new products; Made in Egypt Competition

Made In Egypt is an IEEE GOLD program founded in 2005 and aims to orientate Research and Development activities in the Egyptian universities to tackle real needs and problems and develop prototypes for new products with the signature Made In Egypt (MIE). It is a competition that aims to bridge the gap between university researchers, professionals and business community towards a better impact on our societies.

In the 2009 round, more than 80 teams joined the competition. The program included training programs and mentorship programs from the sponsoring companies. Finals were held in August during the EED. The round of 2010 also started and finals are planned in the coming EED in August 2010.

Start at early stage; the pre-college Programs:

1. Future City Competition: A yearly competition that promotes the en-

gineering discipline amongst school students. In the round of 2009, 90 schools participated from 25 different cities. Trainings were run for school students as well as the teachers supervising the competition inside the schools. Competition was held under the auspicious of the Minister of Education.

2. First Lego League (FLL): provides an inspirational learning experience that celebrates science and technology for 9 to 16 year-old. 16 teams participated in 2009 round. The Winner of the IEEE First Lego League in Egypt had represented Egypt in the FLL World Festival in Atlanta, USA, 14-17 April and competed with 87 Teams from all over world. The team called “Falcon Eye” and this team is a Deaf-Mute team, and they achieved a great success in the World Festival and received the following awards:
 1. Best Innovative Solution Award 1st Place World Wide
 2. Best Adult Coach/Mentor Award World Wide

2010

Contest 1 – MIE 2010 (5th Round)

It is a competition that aims to bridge the gap between university researchers, professionals and business community towards a better impact on our societies. It aims at orienting Research and Development activities in Egypt to tackle real needs and problems, foster business-oriented results and develop prototypes for new products with the signature “Made In Egypt”.

- Several administrative meetings along the program life cycle.
- A start-up general meeting (For new Round): 32 attendees (volunteers) on 15 Jan 2010.
- Mid Year Training (For Old Round): 70 teams (140 attendees).
- MIE Finals: 50 teams (250 attendees approx.) on 7 Aug 2010.



Contest 2 – FC 2010 (3rd round)

Future City is a competition where you can find hands-on applications that are designed and developed by preparatory schools' students to present their vision for cities of the future. There were several administrative meetings along the program life cycle.



Contest 3 – FLL 2010 (2nd round)

First Lego League (FLL) is a global program created to get children excited about science and technology. A hands-on program for ages 9 to 16 (9 to 14 in the U.S. & Canada), FLL uses challenges based on real world scientific problems to engage children in research, problem solving, and engineering. The cornerstone of FLL is its Core Values, which emphasize friendly sportsmanship, learning, and community involvement.

- Several Administrative meetings along the program life cycle
- Cairo Finals: 13 Feb 2010
- National Finals: 5 Mar 2010 - 15 Teams
- 3 orientations sessions for new round covering Egypt in Jul-2010



Conference - EED2010 (9th Round)

This event is an opportunity for all electrical engineering professionals to meet new associates in the field, share ideas, collaborate on projects and learn something new. For freshly graduated engineers, the timing of the event is suitably chosen to introduce them to the engineering market. In few years, it succeeded in becoming the annual nexus for all engineers all over Egypt gathering them in one place.

- Monthly Steering Committee Meetings from Jan-10 until Aug-10
- Weekly Executive team meeting during Jul-10
- EED event : 7-9 Aug 2010



EED structure:

- Workshops: there are two parallel tracks: first, a technical track and second, a business skills track. Each track duration is 2 days.
- Exhibition: around 200 teams are presenting their graduation projects for industry.
- Contest: the 200 participated teams are competing on 5 awards presented by IEEE Egypt Section, and Industry.
- Kids Zone: the winning teams from Future City and FLL are presenting their prototypes for visitors.
- MIE 2010 Finals: the MIE finals is being held in parallel to the EED activities.

Ramadan Iftar (Breakfast)

It was a breakfast event for all the IEEE members (Sections, GOLD, WIE, Student branches) in holy Ramadan month (Sep-2010).



Activities Closing Ceremony

Annual ceremony organised to announce the end of all this year activities and announce the last year results and statistics, also to set the new goals for the next year.

IEEE Day

October 2010 - Organized in association with the Egypt Section and the Student Branches.



Finland

2009

High-tech Entrepreneurship days

Where: VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland in Oulu

When: Mon 20, Wed 22, Thu 23 April 2009

The aim of the entrepreneurship days was to provide information and education to entrepreneurs and to assist them in building new technology companies. The event gave a basic knowledge and important case examples related to entrepreneurship. The educational part covered the basics of entrepreneurship as well as current and future trends. In addition, the event gave an excellent opportunity for networking, searching for new business opportunities, and meeting the organizations dedicated to supporting entrepreneurship.



VTT Technical Research Centre Finland, converging networks laboratory visit

Where: VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland, Oulu

When: Wed 13th of May 2009

IEEE GOLD Finland and IEEE Student Branch Oulu visited VTTs Converging networks laboratory. IEEE gathered 15 student and GOLD members to visit VTT facility on 13th of May. Participants were introduced to VTTs facilities and to interesting presentations about Converging networks laboratory and award winning NFC technology.



Introducing GOLD for Students

Where: Helsinki University of Technology

When: Tue 26th May 2009

13 Participants - Themes: IEEE GOLD, Selected topics in Data Communication Software, International Master's programmes. Hands-on demonstration of smart wireless sensors by the Data Communication Software group.

IEEE Grand Challenge workshop seminar

Where: Sanginjok Camp, Oulu, Finland

When: Fri 30th and Sat 31st of October 2009



IEEE GOLD Oulu Finland together with Infotech and IEEE Student Branch Oulu organized a Grand Challenge Workshop in Sanginjoki. It was a two day event (30 – 31.10.2009) during which participants could gain knowledge about integration of different fields of technology.

The event was opened by IEEE GOLD Finland Oulu Activities chairman Rafal Sliz, who welcomed participants and briefly presented the contents of the seminar. Next Marek Skowron showed a presentation about benefits of IEEE for its members and deeply explained the IEEE Student Transition and Elevation Partnership (STEP) program.

After those presentations there was time for invited key note speakers. Professors Heli Jantunen and Olli Silvén made their presentations and shared their experience with working in cooperation with different laboratories from university and beyond, which attendees found very interesting.

Following the lectures there was time for the social part of the event, during which participants could get to know each other and share their ideas and experience, most of which took time in sauna. The second day was dedicated to group work. People were divided into four teams with team leaders from different fields. The task for each team was to invent a device or solution which

would integrate different fields of technology. There were no strict boundaries for the project in order not to limit teams with their concepts; however there were a few aspects that they had to take into consideration, e.g. power supply, electronics, interfacing, connectivity, etc. All of the teams came up with innovative and useful solutions that could make our life easier in the future. In addition, this event was just a first step in the integration of different engineering fields to make our scientific work more innovative. Moreover, after a very convincing STEP presentation we are certain that recently graduated students members will stay in the IEEE organization.

2010

IEEE/GOLD social meeting

Where: Lecture hall, University of Oulu, Finland

When: Tue 23rd March, 2010

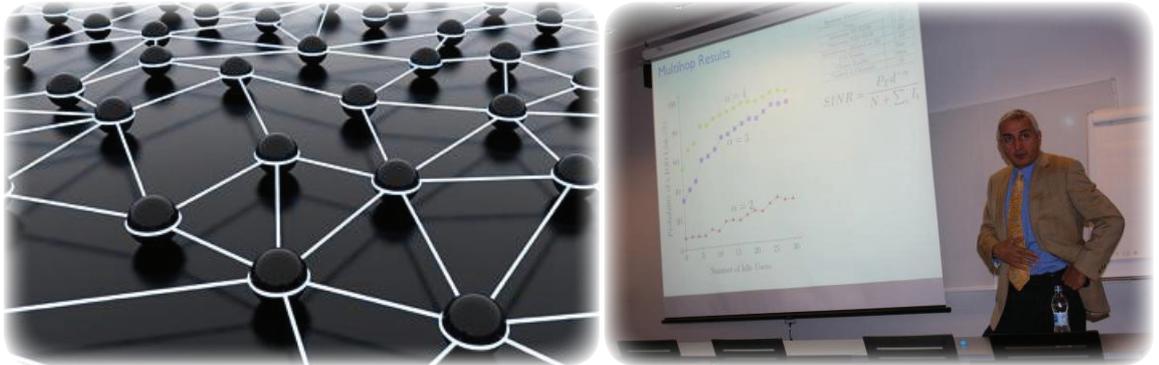
IEEE/GOLD Social meeting for current and potential new IEEE members. The event provided an opportunity for students to meet professionals, alumni and other guests in an unofficial atmosphere. The students could update the guests with their interests, plans and proposals for collaboration. Professionals had the opportunity to offer students valuable advice on state-of-the-art technologies in the field.

IEEE GOLD Professional Telecommunication Lecture: Cognitive Networks and spectrum sharing

On the 12th of May IEEE GOLD Oulu organized a Professional Telecommunication Lecture. The aim was to provide students, young scientists, postdoctoral researchers and industry representatives the unique opportunity to get familiar with recent research results related to cognitive wireless communication networks. High-qualified lectures provided the main theoretical tools, describing the relevant solutions and methods, and addressing the problems still open in these areas. After the lectures there was time for the social part of the event, during which participants could get to know each other and share their ideas and experience. Keynote speakers:

- Professor Behnaam Aazhang
Dept. of Electrical and Computer Engineering, Rice University, Houston, USA; FiDIPro at Centre for Wireless Communication, University of Oulu, Finland. His research interests are in the areas of communication theory, information theory, and their applications with emphasis on wireless communications, cellular mobile radio networks and wireless local area networks.

- Professor Marcos Katz
Centre for Wireless Communications, University of Oulu, Finland. His current research interests include synchronization, multi-antenna techniques, cooperative and cognitive techniques, as well as optical communications, all aiming at future 4G wireless communication systems.



IEEE GOLD at Vulcanalia Oulu

Where: University of Oulu, Finland

When: Tue 7th September 2010

Vulcanalia Oulu is one of the biggest events organized by Oulu University Student Union focused on young students. The main purpose of this event was to get students familiar with active organizations at University. The IEEE GOLD and Student Branch concentrated efforts on convincing young people to join IEEE organization. GOLD members presented the professional aspects of IEEE organization, while Student Branch took care of networking and social activities in the evening.



International Symposium on System-on-Chip 2010

Where: Tampere University of Technology, Tampere, Finland

When: Tue 28th, Wed 29th, Thu 30th September 2010

The International Symposium on System-on-Chip 2010 attracts every year tens of young researchers of Finnish research institutes from both academia and industries (such as Tampere university of Technology, Turku Centre for Computer Science, University of Turku, VTT Oulu, Nokia Research Center and Aalto University of Technology). The mission of SoC is to provide a forum that is fully and comprehensively dedicated to SoC issues. The event is based on a balanced mixture of:

- world-class invited presentations
- exhibition of state-of-the-art commercial technology
- contributed paper track
- industrial paper track
- panel discussion
- tutorial course



IEEE Day – 7th of October 2010

Where: University of Oulu, Finland

When: Thu 7th October 2010



The inaugural edition of IEEE Day was held 7th of October 2010, to celebrate the achievements of IEEE members in Finland and worldwide. IEEE Day recognizes IEEE members – past, present, and future. The GOLD members together with Student Branch Oulu organized an event at the University of Oulu main hall from 10h to 14h. The event provided an exceptional opportunity to recognize existing members, and introduce potential members to IEEE and electrical engineering.

The main point of the event was the helicopter flying competition for participants and visitors. Winners of the competition got the high quality T-shirts and souvenirs with IEEE logo. In addition, stand with coffee, candies, promotional materials and possibility to immediate join IEEE were available for all participants.

Improve your presenting skills – workshop

Where: VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland in Oulu

When: Thu 18th, Fri 19th November 2010



Presentation skills are one of the keys for success. Particularly for the officials operating at the industrial and academic worlds, it is vitally important to be able to communicate their thoughts and ideas effectively, using a variety of tools and mediums. The only way to improve these skills is through practice!

The first day consisted of introductions and introductory speeches given by Mr. Chibuzor Eneh, the Activity Chair of IEEE GOLD Oulu section, Professor Olli Silvén, the vice rector of the University of Oulu and a prominent member of IEEE and Rafal Sliz, the Chairperson of the IEEE GOLD Affinity Group in Finland along with Mr Arroyo's lecture. Mr. Eneh welcomed the participants and gave introductions to the speakers. Professor Silvén gave an inspirational talk on the importance of self development, and Mr. Sliz gave a presentation about IEEE's activity, emphasizing the STEP program. A vibrant

and lively discussion was sparked during the Q&A which followed the coffee break and the lecture. About 50 persons were present during the first day. On the second day there was an opportunity to give personal presentations and get feedback. Three people took up the challenge, demonstrating three different forms of a presentation, One was personal, another with a marketing undertone, and the third was a corporate ready-made presentation template. The group discussed both the strengths and weaknesses of these presentations and then proceeded to another intensive Q&A after a refreshment break where, Powerwave, one of the main sponsors of the event had a quiet but convincing display of their own. The event ended with a dinner and sauna at VTT's meeting and sauna facilities. Co-organizer, TEK (The Finnish Association of Graduate Engineers) was involved in providing a palatable experience in terms of the drinks.

France

2009

Exchange through different IEEE GOLD A.G.

Meeting with IEEE students and fresh graduated students from American University of Sharja –UAE during their annual study trip in May 2009 at Telecom ParisTech engineering school. Participation to lunching GOLD AG of Portugal during the ISBC – October, 9, 10, 11 - Lisbon



IEEE 125th Anniversary celebration

Participation to the organisation of IEEE 125th anniversary celebration in France section, 6 & 7 of November, 2009.

Join us on Facebook !!!

Facebook is a good tool to communicate and sharing activities among GOLD members. The “IEEE GOLD – France” Group on Facebook started at this address: <http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=105316714839>

2010

IEEE Day Dinner

GOLD France celebrated IEEE Day by organizing a social gathering with Students from the UPMC Student Branch and some guests. This event took place on October 6, 2010.

Participation in the Student Branch and GOLD Congress

GOLD France coordinated the participation of the France representatives in the Student Branch and GOLD Congress, SBC 2010, Belgium.

Germany

2009

The 125th anniversary celebration

April 27th: GOLD meeting at the 125th anniversary celebration in Munich.

GOLD at student events

June 26th: 20th anniversary of the Student Branch Passau, with GOLD meeting.

Technical Visit

September 18th: excursion to the International Motor Show (Internationale Automobil Ausstellung, IAA) in Frankfurt.

Greece

2010

IEEE Computer Society Annual Symposium on VLSI

Kefalonia, Greece, July 5-7, 2010.



Scientific Lectures Course in the Area of Embedded Systems: Hardware/Software Design

January 18, October 20, November 2, December 9 - This event belongs in the series of scientific lectures which are regularly given in the context of research activities of Embedded Systems Group (<http://esda-lab.tesyd.teimes.gr/>) of Telecommunications Systems & Networks Dept. The lectures are related to state-of-the-art technologies from academia and industry relevant to telecommunications and embedded systems.

Digital TV: Trends and Future Directions

Sep 3 - The event presented trends and future directions regarding Digital TV.

1st ATHENA Summer School



Jan. 19-25 - IEEE Greece GOLD, Teledrom AB, Department of Telecommunication Systems & Networks – Technological Educational Institution of Messolongi Greece, Department of Informatics & MM – Technological Educational Institution of Patras, Greece coorganized the 1st ATHENA Summer School (www.athenasch.gr) in the thematic areas of “Cellular Technologies & Solutions”. ATHENA event was held from July 19 to 25 2010 in the beautiful city of Nafpaktos, Greece. Technical support and sponsorships provided by Cosmote S.A., CISCO Networking Academy, ANKO and IEEE VTS.

Italy

2009

Technical Celebration Organized by GOLD

On July 6th 2009 an event celebrating 125 years of IEEE and 50 years of IEEE Italy Section has been organized by the IEEE Italy GOLD, the AESS Space Systems Technical Panel and the Italian Joint Chapter Signal Processing/AES. The Event has been sponsored by AFCEA (Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association) and the IEEE Italy Section. The event was held in Villa Mondragone, one of the largest and most beautiful villas of Tusculum, an ancient roman town not far from Rome, towering on a hill 416m above the sea-level. Villa Mondragone has been a blessed place since Galileo decided to perform there his first tests on his telescope. After him, numerous groundbreaking tryouts followed, until the more recent ones by Guglielmo Marconi, whose first radio communication experiments paved the way to the microwaves communication era.

The celebratory event took place in such a special scenario. IEEE Italy Section Chair, on behalf of Prof. Silvano Donati, opened the day and welcomed the participants. An introduction of the IEEE Italy Section and the Italian Chapter Signal Processing & AES activities by Prof. Gaspare Galati followed. A presentation of the Italian GOLD activities was then given by its Chair, Cosimo Stallo. Prof. Marina Ruggieri, as AESS Ex VP and Space Systems Panel Chair, introduced two key-note speeches, respectively given by Prof. Daniele Mortari, (Texas A&M University) on Flower Constellations, and by Admiral Filippo Maria Foffi (Ministry of Defence, VI Division C4I and Transformation) on the present picture and recent developments of the Italian Defense Satellite Communication.

The closing address of the event has been given by Gen. Pietro Finocchio, President of the AFCEA Rome Chapter, a non-profit association serving the

Military, the Government and the Academic world. The Rome Chapter is an ethical forum aiming at the improvement of professional knowledge and relations in the fields of ICT, intelligence, and global security. In the figure the three Honorary Members and some of the people attending the Event are shown in the beautiful garden of Villa Mondragone.



Technical Again

“New trends in SAR remote sensing” is the seminar that Prof. Maurizio Migliaccio held at University of Cagliari to illustrate new technologies and applicative perspectives in Synthetic Aperture Radar remote sensing emphasizing the role of Italian technologies and science in international community. The seminar was locally organized by the Faculty of Engineering - DIEE (Ref. Ing. Andrea Casula) and was held on 29 April 2009 at the new DIEE building. The seminar was also endorsed by the IEEE GRS South Italy Chapter.

GOLD cooperation with local universities

Telespazio, University of Roma Tor Vergata, and IEEE GOLD AG Italy organized the Workshop on “Data Security in Satellite Applications and INTERSECTION Project” on 26th October 2009, at Villa Mondragone – Swiss Hall, Rome.

2010

2010 IEEE GOLD Remote Sensing Conference

The conference was held on 29, 30 April 2010 at the Italian Naval Academy (Livorno), Italy.

Seminar “Aerospace Applications using Rotations in n -Dimensional Spaces”

Seminar by Professor D. Mortari Department of Aerospace Engineering -Texas A&M University, U. S. on July 5 2010 at Electronic Department of University of Rome Tor Vergata.

Kenya

2010

Seminars

- Linkage of Industry with Academia (LIWA) Month of June attracted 84 participants mainly Principals of technical Institution.
- East Africa Common Market Protocol Seminar
- Automation of Performance Contracting Seminar
- Network Security Seminar
- Paperless office Seminar
- National Public works seminar for Contractors.

Humanitarian event

February 2 - We went to primary schools to bring to them awareness of robotics. How to build a simple robot to primary school children and feeding primary pupils from the slum area of Mathare North.

Lebanon

2009

Show GOLD benefits for others

We had social gatherings, also with people from outside GOLD. We were able to show the GOLD benefits and recruit 3 new members.

2010

Meetings with all Student Branches chairs: March, June, September, October 2010

- Discussed the issues they faced.
- Encouraged new Student Branches to come up with activities and provided them with the help needed.
- Introduced Student Branches committees to one another.

STEP event held at the American University of Beirut

The IEEE GOLD Lebanon organized the STEP event to celebrate the graduation of IEEE members of the 5 major engineering universities in Lebanon. The event was held on Thursday the 7th of October, which coincided with the IEEE Day worldwide event.

Nigeria

2009

IEEE 125th Anniversary program at the Warri Refining & Petrochemical Co. Ltd, University of Uyo, and Kano

Group of activities had been held on 5/13/2009. It was both a professional & social meeting held in the premises of the Refinery with the full support of the Managing Director of the company. The 2nd venue was University of Uyo Engineering Garden with attendance made up of students, lecturers and some staff from the companies. In Kano, Nigeria, This was a highly successful social program with attendance from various communications companies including MTN, GLO and other companies. Dinner was served.

Collaboration through different IEEE GOLD A.G.

In 9/17/2009: A small social gathering to welcome the IEEE Lebanon GOLD chair to Nigeria. The meeting centered on the collaboration & sharing of ideas on the success of GOLD

2010

Administrative meeting

February 13 - Discussions on extending GOLD activities to Northern regions of Nigeria. Membership Drive.

Student Transition & Elevation Partnership Program

March 26 - A successful STEP activity directed at National Youth Service Corp (NYSC) members at their orientation camp was organised. These are fresh graduates from various institutions serving in Abuja, Nigeria. Activities included introduction of WIE to the ladies.

Administrative meeting

June 19 - This meeting was held at the end of the successful NIGERCON 2010 conference. Discussions included the gains of the NIGERCON conference. Membership drive.

Student Transition & Elevation Partnership Program

September 25 - A very successful STEP activity was held at the Federal University of Technology, Minna. One of the Heads of Department earnestly asked to join IEEE as a result of this activity. A total of 14 graduating students attended the event.

Social meeting with organizers of SBC2010 in Belgium

Nigeria GOLD chair visited Belgium after the SBC2010. The Nigerian contingent missed the congress due to inability to secure visas on time. During the trip, the GOLD chair had social meetings with the conference organizers and also collected the congress materials for the registered Nigerian delegates.

Administrative meeting

October 16 - Stock taking of the activities of the year and discussions of future events. Brainstorming on methods of increasing member participation in programs.

Portugal

2010

IEEE Day and STEP event

October 7.

Portugal Student Branch & GOLD congress

September 25.

Conference call with GOLD officers and Section

March 8.

Russia - Siberia

2009

GOLD co-organize a technical IEEE conference

International Siberian Conference on Control and Communications (SIB-CON) Venue and sponsor: Tomsk State University of Control Systems and Radioelectronics; ComSoc, MTT-S, ED-S. Date: Mar 27-28. Attendance: 90.



GOLDies with students in one conference

The 11th IEEE-Russian scientific-practical conference of students, graduate students and young scientific “Modern technique and technology” (MTT’2009). Venue: Tomsk, Tomsk Polytechnic University. Date: May 4-8, 2009. Attendance: 400.

2010

Technical

April 12 to 16 - The 12th IEEE-Russian scientific-practical conference of students, graduate students and young scientific “Modern technique and technology” (MTT’2010), held at Tomsk, Tomsk Polytechnic University.

Student Paper Contest on Information Security (SIBINFO-2010)

April 20 to 21 - All-Russian Contest among students on IT specialties according the IEEE Region 8 rules. Held at Tomsk State University of Control Systems and Radioelectronics (TUSUR).

Tomsk IEEE Scientific Seminar

In total 11 seminars. Held at Tusur. 10-25 Participants each.
Website: <http://chapters.comsoc.org/tomsk/en/seminar/>

Seminar “Join the IEEE”

April 21 - Presentation of O.Stukach at Tomsk Polytechnic University.

Region 8 Chapters Meeting

June 5 to 7 - r. O. Stukach was participated at the Region 8 Chapters Meeting in Stuttgart, Germany.

European Microwave Week and MTT-S Chapter Chairs Meeting

October - Dr. L. Babak was participated at the European Microwave Week and MTT-S Chapter Chairs Meeting in Paris, France.

Saudi-Arabia - East

2009

GOLDies at a technical forum

More than 200 engineers from local company in addition to government officials, executives and experts from various companies in the power business sector, and universities’ professors met on March 30, 2010 at the R&D Tech-

nical Exchange Center for the first Power Generation Forum to share their experiences in power and renewable generation technologies. The preparation for this event was on the form of several meetings on last year 2009.

2010

1st Power Generation Forum

More than 150 engineers from government officials, executives and experts from various companies in the power business sector, and universities' professors met on Mar. 30, 2010 at the R&D Technical Exchange Center for the 1st Power Generation Forum to share their experiences in power and renewable generation technologies. The forum featured a panel discussion on "The Future of Renewable Energy in KSA". Furthermore, various topics and issues of relevance were tackled on the forum including: electricity industry restructuring, GCC interconnection advantages, Economic Dispatch, plant performance issues, and environmental issues. It is worth to mention that this event was lead by IEEE-GOLD members and local company.

Energycon 2010

On 18-20 December 2010, participating in the organising of the Energycon 2010 where more than 600 participants including speakers who presents their experiences from industry and academy. This event was organised by IEEE-Saudi section with IEEE-GOLD involvement in several sub-committees.

South Africa - North

2009

Important talks for more professional GOLDies

A seminar titled "How to register with ECSA as a professional engineer" held on 15th of October 2009 - IEEE GOLD (Graduates of the last decade) will host a short seminar on How to register with ECSA as professional engineer which basically means how to get that "Pr.Eng." behind your name. Another seminar titled "How to market yourself" held on 29th of March 2009.

GOLDen meeting

Committee administration training had been held on 11th of July 2009.

2010

STEP Event Planning and Collaboration meeting between UP Student Branch and GOLD AG

July 16.

STEP Event

July 29 - MBA and Technology Management for Young Engineers and the UP IEEE SB Comsoc Chapter Launch.



IEEE Day Celebration / Membership Information session

October 7 and 8.



South Africa - South

2009

IEEE 125th Anniversary event

Date: 5 June 2009, IEEE 125th anniversary event held in conjunction with the University of Cape Town Student Branch.

Title: “The antipodal behavior of noise in digital and analog FM”.

Speaker: Prof. Jacob Klapper.
Attendance: 29 IEEE members and 5 guests.

Financial Planning for GOLDies

Date: 10 December 2009, Title: An introduction to financial planning for the future. Speaker: Rob Barge, Attendance: 3 IEEE members and 6 guests.

2010

Committee meeting

May 21.

Communications and networks seminar

May 26 - held jointly with IEEE Communication Society Chapter.

Membership development talk

August 30.

IEEE GOLD STEP event: IEEE Day celebration

October 7.

Tunisia

2010

Poster Contest Day

May 17 to 20 – held in the National Engineering School of Sfax (ENIS).

Software Freedom Day

September 18 – in ENIS.



IEEE Day

October 8 - Celebrate Members' Achievements (STEP Event) in ENIS.



English training

October 13 - English training for TOEIC, TOEFL and FCE tests in ENIS.

ICT Companies Day

November 27 – in ENIS.



NeuroLinguistic Programming School

December 24 to 26 – in Mahdia.



Workshop on Intelligent Machines (WIMTA)

December 24 to 27 – in Mahdia.



Turkey

2010

Social meetings

In June, October and December.

Seminars

February - on Chairs Congress Yeditepe University.

July - on Student Branch & GOLD Congress in Anadolu University.

United Arab Emirates

2009

Influencing research among GOLD members; Made in UAE Competition

The UAE-GOLD successfully organized the 3rd round of Made-In-The-UAE Competition which was held in conjunction with the 4th IEEE Student Day at the American University in Dubai (AUD), UAE on May 2, 2009. The “Made

in the UAE” (MIU) competition targeted non-student professionals in the UAE (IEEE members and non-members). 7 teams participated in the competition. The top 3 winners received cash prizes worth 2000, 1500, and 1000 AED. The top 3 winners were invited to participate in the 2009 “Made in the Arab World (MIA)” competition which was held in Cairo, Egypt in October 2009. The first winner from the MIU competition participated and won the 2nd place at the MIA competition. The participants got the chance to interact with students, faculty and representatives from the industry.

New website

The domain name <http://www.ieee-uae.com/new/affinity-groups/gold.html> has been setup.

2010

4th round of the Made-In-The-UAE (MIU) Competition

IEEE GOLD – UAE Section successfully organized the 4th round of the Made-In-The-UAE (MIU) Competition which was held in conjunction with the 5th IEEE Student Day at the Petroleum Institute on Saturday May 8, 2010. The “Made in the UAE” (MAU) competition aims at influencing research and developing activities in the UAE. The competition targeted graduate students, researchers, faculty members and professionals in the UAE. All participants got the chance to present their innovative products and interact with students, faculty and experts from industry.

The competition saw 11 shortlisted teams from institutions that included the American University of Sharjah, Petroleum Institute, Al Ghurair University, Heriot-Watt University, University of Sharjah, Higher Colleges of Technology and Khalifa University for Science & Technology. Contestants competed for the development of IT products, both software and hardware. The products focused on solving various challenging problems in the UAE such as: designing indoor wireless systems to help visually impaired people; intelligent systems to extend the life of electrical transformers; designing a car cooling system that uses solar energy; and smart solar-cell cleaning systems. The top 3 winners received cash prizes worth 2000, 1500, and 1000 AED.

Graduate Forum

IEEE GOLD – UAE Section successfully launched the Graduate Forum which will be held in conjunction with the 2011 IEEE GCC Conference. The Graduate Forum is the first of its kind in the Middle East. The Graduate Forum at the IEEE GCC Conference is a poster session for Ph.D. and MSc Stu-

dents to present and discuss their dissertation research with people attending the GCC conference from industry and academia. The goal is to help students get feedback on their research from experts and for industry to see academic work in progress. The forum can also help students establish contacts for entering the job market. The forum is open to all GCC conference attendees. It will be held during the 1st day (20th of February, 2011) of the GCC conference. More information can be found at: <http://www.ieeegcc.org/gcc/graduate-forum.html>.

United Kingdom & Republic of Ireland

2009

IEEE GOLD co-organized technical seminars

- Titles: (1) Monitoring Heritage Buildings with Wireless Sensor Networks: The Torre Aquila Deployment
(2) An Introduction to the Contiki Operating System
Speaker: Dr. Luca Mottola (Swedish Institute of Computer Science)
Date: Wednesday 4th March 2009
Venue: Roberts Building, UCL, London, UK
Organisers: (1) Department of Electronic & Electrical Engineering, University College London;
(2) IEEE UKRI Communications Chapter;
(3) IEEE UKRI Computer Chapter; and
(4) IEEE UKRI Graduates Of the Last Decade (GOLD).
- Title: Problem Oriented Engineering
Speaker: Dr. Jon G. Hall (The Open University)
Date: Wednesday 18th March 2009
Venue: King's College London, Strand, London, UK
Organisers: (1) Department of Electronic Engineering, King's College London;
(2) IEEE UKRI Communications Chapter;
(3) IEEE UKRI Computer Chapter; and
(4) IEEE UKRI Graduates Of the Last Decade (GOLD).
- Title: The Internet of Things Goes Wireless
Speaker: Dr. Thomas Watteyne (UC Berkeley) and Dr. Mischa Dohler (CTTC)
Hosted by Prof. Hamid Aghvami (KCL)
Date: Wednesday 9th September 2009
Venue: Edmond J Safra Theatre, King's College London, UK

- Title: Biorobotics: How much can we learn and copy from nature?
Speaker: Dr. Alon Wolf (Technion I.I.T, Israel)
Date: Wednesday 14th October 2009
Venue: King's Building, King's College London, UK
Organisers: (1) King's College London Robotics Society;
(2) IEEE UKRI Technology Management/Professional Communications Chapter;
(3) IEEE UKRI Computer Chapter; and
(4) IEEE UKRI Graduates Of the Last Decade (GOLD).

2010

Student/GOLD Reception + Social event within WCCI 2010

The IEEE GOLD Sub-Committee organised two main events during 2010. The first one was an event called "Student/GOLD Reception". The latter, was a social event within the WCCI 2010, which was held in Barcelona, Spain. During this event, the GOLD subcommittee conducted a survey of all attendees at the event. This was aimed at assessing the usefulness of such an event and the overall response was excellent. This encourages us to run the event again and has provided good information on how we can improve the GOLD subcommittee activities to support our younger members. The complete result of this survey can be obtained from the following website: http://www.ieee-cis.org/members/gold/GOLD_files/event_wcci.html.

Essay Competition

Basically the main idea was to provide this valuable information we are looking for short essays on the topic "what it means to be a young CI researcher in the 21st century". The best essay will be published in the IEEE CIS magazine and the winning entry will also be offered the opportunity to become a member of the CIS GOLD subcommittee and receive a \$500 cash prize.

R8 GOLD AG Successful Stories

Benelux

2008

- We organized a GOLD weekend together with Student Branch Leuven having several companies, Professional Activities lecturers and many participants involved. It was an extremely successful event that you can find the details @ www.ieee.nl/goldweekend and we are in the progress of organizing yet another one together with Student Branch Eindhoven and TMC.

2009

- Collaboration with Student Branches, chapters, local groups and industry in event organization.

Bosnia & Herzegovina

2008

- Meeting of almost all our GOLD members 8-9 months ago. That was more like meeting for fun and making friendship, and all with the purpose of networking and building stronger relationships between our members.
- Also we had a presentation about GOLD, a few months ago, during the 1th annual meeting of our Student Branches with industry (ISBIRAM2008). That's part of the plan to keep more members after their graduation.
- A few months ago, Muhamed Semic (member of IEEE SB Sarajevo board), Sergej Furtula (chair of SB Novi Sad, Serbia), and Omer Tanovic (=myself) had an informal meeting during the 48th International Electrical Engineering Students Meeting Elekrijada 2008, Teslic, Bosnia-Herzegovina, about enhancing relations between GOLD AGs and SBs in SE Europe, specially Balkans. I hope we're going to turn that into reality, and make it happen, because it's going to be a big step to improve not only the idea of engineering and IEEE but also human relationships between the nations on Balkans (regarding the war in nineties).

2010

- All the events organized in 2010 were successful.
- Also there is one interesting story from August 2010 when Alvin Abdagic (IEEE Student Branch Sarajevo Chair) and Omer Tanovic went to SBC

2010 in Leuven. Because of recession, funds for this trip were cut to minimum, and that means they didn't have enough funds to go there by plane. So they decided to go by car, and drove almost 4000 kilometers in just 6 days (it was around 48 hours of pure driving), in a 20 year old VW GOLF III. If that's not IEEE spirit at its best, then I don't know what it is.

Croatia

2008

- We try to work with IEEE Student Branches and other societies to be able to give our members the content they are interested in. This is how we organized numerous lectures with relatively high number of members in the audience. Here are a couple of selected ones:
- Title: Security in Black and White and Image Forensic
Speaker: Prof. Alex Chichung Kot, IEEE Fellow, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore
Date: February 2008
Venue: University of Zagreb, Faculty of EE & Comp
Co-organisers: (1) IEEE Croatia section, (2) Signal Processing Chapter
- Title: Research Opportunities in NTU, Singapore with SINGA Scholarships
Speaker: Prof. Alex Chichung Kot, IEEE Fellow, Nanyang Technological University, Singapore
Date: February 2008
Venue: University of Zagreb, Faculty of EE & Comp
Co-organisers: IEEE Croatia section
- Title: A guide to postgraduate study abroad
Speaker: Domagoj Babic, M.Sc.E.E., University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada
Date: December 2007
Venue: University of Zagreb, Faculty of EE & Comp
Co-organisers: (1) Communications Society Chapter Student Branch; (2) P.O.I.N.T., Croatia
- Title: Intellectual property protection - a practical guide
Speaker: Sasa Desic, Ph.D., IEEE member, Ericsson Nikola Tesla, Croatia
Date: June 2007
Venue: University of Zagreb, Faculty of EE & Comp
- Title: Resource and project management
Speaker: William Bello, Hessel Ltd.

Date: May 2007
Venue: University of Zagreb, Faculty of EE & Comp
Co-organisers: Engineering Management Society Chapter

2009

- The most important success story in 2009 was the forming of GOLD/Professional Activities team in Croatia. The team now has 10 members which are all active volunteers, participating in organizing all the events in the Section. We now have a pool of volunteers to choose from when in need of future leading positions within our sections.
- “STEP one” event was a true organizing success story. It attracted a lot of attendees and the format of open discussion (not just ex cathedra lectures) that the lecturers so marvellously stimulated was a true winner. Advertising the event on Facebook was also quite revolutionary in our Section and it seems that this is the communication channel that has had the most success so far and the one we plan to use in the future for all events.

2010

- The most successful events were STEP events held in 2010, but this came as a result of several parameters. First of all, a GOLD/PA team is now well established with 10 active members, mainly from the industry, and supported by a pool of volunteers, mainly students, who are willing to participate in event organizations. Secondly, STEP events have been recognized as a series of interesting and useful workshops, which students gladly attend. We also had very good feedback and have some ideas which might become next STEP events.
- The biggest step forward were two STEPs in Osijek. There is a great lack of activities of this kind outside Zagreb, which is why our goal was to spread our activities in other universities in Croatia. Cooperation with Student Branch Osijek was a complete success and opened the door for further activities.

Czechoslovakia

2008

- Our long term target is to show to young members that IEEE does something for them, not only asking for member fee. Organizing technical or scientific events is nice. But!... This has only a limited effect as everybody is specialized to something different. It's difficult in our small country to

find such topics interesting for more people. The event must have some general topic interesting for everybody: soft skills.

- Up to now we organized eight meetings namely for young members and for students. These meetings combine educational aim with social and cultural program. These are:
- November 15, 2004, Praha
Dr. Rostislav Benak: “Personal Satisfaction or how to Handle our Energy Effectively”
- April 28, 2005, Praha
“Chateau Trio”: Four Dances by G. F. Händel and Serenade in C major by W. A. Mozart
Prof. Dr. Olga Mullerova: “How to be Successful in Communication in Public and in Private”
- December 7, 2005, Praha
the “Pichl Trio”: two short pieces by A. Corelli and J. Haydn
Prof. Dr. Lenka Šulova: “Psychology and Communication among People”
- May 11, 2006, Praha
string duo: two short pieces by J. Haydn and K. Stamic
Monika Schmidtova: “How to prepare and execute a presentation”
- November 9, 2006, Praha
string duo: W.A. Mozart, C. Stamitz.
Petra Halířová: “Teambuilding and Synergy or how to pull together“
- April 11, 2007, Praha
string duo: two pieces by J. Haydn and C. Stamitz.
PhD. Jana Šafránková, CSc: “How to Manage a Team More Effectively”
- October 16, 2007, Brno
the brass quintet Con Spirito: Jacques Ibert: „Trois Pièces Brèves“.
Ing. Mojmír Vacek: “From the Idea to the Business”
- March 18, 2008, Praha
string duo: 2 pieces by Pietro Antonio Locatelli, and Pavel Vranický
Jana Hejnová: “Meeting with Jewish Culture“

Denmark

2008

- The organization of the Workshop on “Development of Leadership Skills”, which took place in Aalborg, Denmark, on November 15, 2007.
- The organization of the First International Workshop on “Cognitive Radio

and Advanced Spectrum Management” (CogART’08), which took place in Aalborg, Denmark, on February 14, 2008.

- The organization of the seminar entitled “A Genetic Approach to Joint Routing and Link Scheduling in Wireless Mesh Networks”, which took place in Aalborg, Denmark, on February 27, 2008.

Egypt

2008

- Industrial-based activities.
- Egyptian Engineering Days.
- Pre-college programs.
- Community-based events.
- Technical-based activities.
- Industry-University links.
- Made in Egypt: Participation of numerous industries and ministries.

2009

- The main success this year was the development of a new generation of volunteers that will lead future GOLD activities. This was the result of a leadership program that started 2 years ago when we noticed the scarcity of potential leaders to take over the GOLD activities.

2010

- Egypt GOLD AG plans for 2010 were targeting to achieve the following:
 1. Bridging the gap between Industry and University.
 2. Introducing the fresh graduates to the industrial market.
 3. Increasing the engineering sense for school students.
 4. Increasing the entrepreneurial skills.
 5. Stressing on the value of volunteering work.
 6. Encouraging engineers to join IEEE.

All of our objectives are being achieved through our programs.

- First Lego League (FLL) Winning Team: The Team winning the local finals participated in the world wide finals and won the first place for the Innovative Solution Award.
- Egyptian Engineering Day (EED): Organizing the EED, gathering 5190 visitors from all over Egypt from different fields (3231 students, 1165 graduate students, 40 high school students, 673 Industry and Press and Media Representatives).

- Made In Egypt (MIE) 2010: The quality of participated projects are being enhanced from year to year. The curve below is showing the progress in number of participated teams across the years.

Finland

2008

- IEEE Finland section GOLD AG has organized and is planning to continue organizing sauna-evenings, social gathering in local settings.

2009

- Working with local professional organizations was a great success. It led to organizing our biggest event in 2009 (over one hundred participants). Local organizations bring contacts, visibility - IEEE education, and international network.

2010

- 2010 was an extremely active year.
- The most successful was the formation of a great active group in Oulu and establishing the Tampere GOLD Section.

France

2010

- Thanks to the GOLD AG efforts in meeting students, there is now more contact and collaboration than before between GOLD and Students in France. In the previous years, both entities were totally disconnected.

Italy

2008

- The workshop about “Development of Leadership Skills” held on July 3-4, 2008 by the Professor K. R. Richter, Professor Emeritus, Technical University of Graz, Austria. This workshop introduced participants into interpersonal, group, team and leadership skills. The format for the workshop was through interactive participation, using several exercises and case studies. The skills developed are appropriate for application in management or leadership positions in various types of organizations, includ-

ing business, industry or volunteer activities. An important part dealt with problem solution and cooperation with difficult team members by a proper involvement in the process of problem solving and decision making. During the workshop different types of conflicts as well as various strategies and their consequences were analyzed. Choosing the right team is a preventive measure to minimize the causes of conflicts, and during controversial discussions it is important to have a team, which acts as objectively as possible by keeping to the facts and weighting the consequences of the decisions. Moreover, in order to select the right person for a certain position, it is very useful to know and to categorize his/her personality. Self tests and their evaluation as well as case studies helped to understand a scheme of personality types that were presented. This workshop was followed by many students from the University of Tor Vergata and some people coming from industrial companies invited to this event.

- 2008 IEEE GOLD Remote Sensing Conference held on May 22-23, 2008 in ESA-ESRIN Magellan Room, Frascati (Roma). This event provided a platform for young researchers, GOLD stands for Graduate Of Last Decade, to present their work in all aspects of remote sensing. Professionals, company employees, Master students and PhD students were warmly encouraged to take advantage of the third IEEE GOLD Remote Sensing Conference which was aimed at being a full European and international venue for young talented people. No admission charge was requested while IEEE GRS Student Membership was requested. The Conference was endorsed by the IEEE Spain GRS Chapter and the IEEE UKRI GRS Chapter. This event was successfully followed by many young researchers coming from many Universities in Italy and in Europe.
- Seminar on: “Journey to the Cutting-Edge of Positioning and Navigation” held on November 30, 2007 in Sogei S.p.A. The presentations were focused on:
 - “Overview on IEEE GOLD - Organization Structure, Aims and Activities” by Cosimo Stallo, IEEE GOLD Italy, University of Rome “Tor Vergata”.
 - “Software-Defined Radio and GNSS institutional applications” and “SDR developments in Sogei” by Roberto Capua and Marco Torrisi, Sogei S.p.A.
 - “Wireless Location: from Standalone to Cooperative Augmentation Solutions” by Simone Frattasi, IEEE GOLD Denmark, Aalborg University

- “GEOPOI: a framework for localising and monitoring of Geographic Data” by Antonio Bottaro and Maurizio Rosina, Sogei S.p.A. This event was published on the important Italian Magazine “Geomedia”.

2010

- 2010-2011 IEEE AESS Student Activities Project – “High Altitude Balloons Competition Program” by the University of Rome ‘Tor Vergata’, Italy The M. Sc. Course in “Advanced Communication and Navigation Satellite Systems” organized by University of Rome ‘Tor Vergata’ foresees a project work, called the High Altitude Balloons Competition Program, in the frame of AESS GOLD activities.

It consists of the launch of high altitude helium balloons for experimental missions. They represent a cheap and fast way to remotely test scientific payloads (with limited mass of 1 to 2 kilos). Such balloons, in fact, can easily reach up to 32-33 kilometers altitude and the duration of the mission is a few hours.

The project work will be fulfilled in about 3 to 4 months by nearly 20 students divided in 5 teams. Each team is accomplishing one of the following five scientific targets:

1. To design and develop the communication and navigation platform. This platform will include TT&C and GPS positioning. It includes the parachute system to soften the crash of the payload at the end of the mission.
2. To design and develop an SDR GPS receiver able to work also at high altitude (commercial GPS receiver stops to work at about 24 km).
3. To design and develop a sensor platform that includes a record of the main scientific parameter (altitude, pressure, temperature, humidity, radiations, etc.) able to characterize the stratospheric environment.
4. To design and develop a video/picture system able to minimize the fluctuation of the platform and to record HD imaging of the near space.
5. To design and develop an energy system able to create energy at high altitude with photovoltaic cells and/or small wind turbines.

As above described, it is clear that this project involves many fields of interest of IEEE AESS. On the other hand, we are confident that this ex-

perience will teach students the most significant concepts and techniques useful to better design innovative aerospace systems during their future work in industries and public institutions.

We have supposed that the average cost of the parts needed for each mission is about 1500\$. Moreover, we would like to organize an IEEE AESS event during which a public presentation of the results will hold. The organizing costs of this event are about 1000\$.

Finally, we would like to give some prizes to the best 3 teams, that better accomplished the technical and scientific goals (1000\$ first prize, 500\$ second and third prize). The total costs are about: 6 missions x 1500\$ + 1000\$ event + 2000\$ prizes = 12000 \$. The costs could be reduced if the presenting event will not be organized or reducing the number of missions or reducing the prizes. Total financial support by the IEEE AESS: \$5000.

Jordan

2008

- Officers training program in order to ensure continuation of the GOLD AG.

Kenya

2010

- When we organised the seminar “Linkage of Industry with Academia” and managed to bring together 84 participants to the event. It was very successful.

Lebanon

2008

- Since our AG is still new, and the situation in Lebanon was not helping at all to conduct activities, our last activity was in March which was organizing the IEEE Xtreme competition in Lebanon, our Vice-President was a judge and the GOLD volunteers were proctors. The situation is now becoming better and we intend to move on with the activities.

2009

- GOLD got in touch with the graduating Student Branch chairs in order to get them to join the GOLD committee since they have close ties with their classmates at universities. One Student Branch chair joined us while the others could not as they were moving outside Lebanon. He proved to be very beneficial due to his close contacts at his university and other university Student Branches.
- Promoted IEEE at work and we were able to get people interested in IEEE and the technical webinars, and we were able to recruit 3 new members.
- Sent the GOLD members (past and current) a survey asking them about specific topics related to GOLD activities they wish to have and how they can help GOLD (volunteering, presenting seminars,..).

2010

- We were able to gather the Student Branches together and discussed successful and failing stories and provided expertise to them. They have shared their failures and other Student Branches were able to learn from this. Also, successful ideas were shared between Student Branches so that everyone can benefit from this.

Morocco

2008

- All the webinars were successful stories for me.

Nigeria

2008

- 2007 Gymnconference (<http://gymnconference.org>): Successfully organised a Student Branch and GOLD conference tagged GYMN 2007 (GOLD Younger Members' Network Conference) in conjunction with IET at the University of Ife last year September. The program was well attended. Over 18 universities and Polytechnics were represented from all over Nigeria. Registered attendance was 197. A total of 19 papers were presented.
- Corporate Awards: In conjunction with University of Ibadan Student Branch, honored 3 Corporate leaders with awards of excellence in February this year. These include the heads of Nigerian Communication Commission (NCC), LM Ericson (Nig) Ltd and Interswitch Nig. Ltd.
- Membership Drive: A recent IEEE GOLD presentation at the University

of Uyo produced 29 registered new student members. A focus on recruiting professionals resulted in the enlistment of 4 engineers of MTN Nigeria Limited (renowned Telecom provider) and a program is underway to recruit more members.

- Online Executive Meetings: Due to the scarce location of the GOLD executive members in Nigeria, we now successfully hold our meetings online via Skype and Yahoo chat. This makes it possible to hold more meetings in a year.
- Web Presence: We have successfully hosted three websites which are actively managed by IEEE Nigeria GOLD. These include: IEEE Nigeria GOLD website, <http://ewh.ieee.org/r8/nigeria/gold>, IEEE Nigeria Computer Society Forum, http://ieeecommunities.org/nigeria_cs and IEEE Nigeria GOLD AG Blog, <http://ieeegoldnig.wordpress.com>.
- Excursions: The IEEE Nigeria GOLD vice chair organised an excursion to his workplace for the students from the University of Uyo in August.

2009

- Membership Drive – Students from two institutions mobilized members in order to qualify for registration as a Student Branch.
- The South West GOLD coordinator focused on recruiting professionals amongst the MTN staff members where he works as a manager.
- GOLD vice chair organised the registration of at least 20 new student members.
- IEEE 125th Anniversary – GOLD successfully hosted anniversary programs in four various locations in Nigeria.
- STEP – A successful STEP program was organised in conjunction with the Federal University of Technology, Akure Student Branch.
- GOLD has over 233 active members and the IEEEGOLDNIG listserv has over 268 subscribers.

2010

- NYSC camp reach out program – Last year we couldn't achieve this. This year, a successful NYSC camp outreach was held in conjunction with a STEP activity.
- SBC2010 – Two delegates out of 8 got their visa to attend the SBC2010 conference in Belgium although the visa came too late.
- The GOLD Chair visited Belgium after the SBC2010 had ended and collected the congress materials for the registered delegates. The trip was self sponsored.
- STEP – Two successful STEP activities were organised. The first was di-

rected to fresh graduates from various institutions during their NYSC orientation camp program in Abuja. The second was in conjunction with the Federal University of Technology, Minna Student Branch.

- NIGERCON 2010 – GOLD members actively participated in the organization of the 1st International Conference by the Nigeria Section in Abuja.
- The IEEE Nigeria GOLD chair is the recipient of the 2010 R8 GOLD Outstanding Activity Award.
- Membership Drive – Successful efforts were made to have GOLD members renew their IEEE membership.
- GOLD has over 222 active members and the IEEEGOLDNIG listserv has 267 subscribers.

Portugal

2010

- The most important aspect of GOLD Portugal is the tight relation with Student Branches.

Russia - Siberia

2008

- Our main activity is SIBCON-2009 Conference (Siberian Conference on Control and Communications). Last editions 2007, 05, 03 etc. were a success, so we are waiting for active participation in this event. Some GOLD leaders took an active part at SIBCON, for example, Tomasz Orzechowski from Poland and Cosimo Stallo from Italy.

2009

- The most significant accomplishment is the IEEE International Siberian Conference on Control and Communications SIBCON-2009, held in March 27-28. Started in 1995 biannually, the conference attracts around 80-100 participants. The list of activities at the conference is impressive and will likely continue to improve. In particular, we established good connections with the Italian GOLD AG. More information:
 - <http://chapters.comsoc.org/tomsk/en/creativity/origin.htm>
 - <http://chapters.comsoc.org/tomsk/en/creativity/sibcon09.htm>
- Every year, our AG also hosts the annual Student Paper Contest and Conference on Information Security (SIBINFO). It is an all-Russian Contest among students of IT specialties according to the IEEE Region 8 Student

Paper Contest rules. The contest attracted up to 150 mostly local attendees, primarily students and young professionals, but some will be traveling long distances to attend.

- Our section began becoming more active, so some success is seeing new faces not normally active during IEEE events. These young professionals also gave us important feedback by indicated their interest in networking.

2010

- Our GOLD AG has had some great successes with recent events. The largest success was a free tutorial on GPR. It was free to members, advertised very well, and it appealed to a large audience in Tomsk, due to the abundance of Radar R&D work in our city.
- The AG began becoming more active, success is seeing new faces not normally active during other IEEE events at nearly every meeting. These young professionals also gave us important feedback by indicated their interest in networking and developing the soft skills not normally seen in technical meetings of the other chapters and societies.

Saudi-Arabia - East

2008

- We managed to have and attend several meetings for members since last year and at the first quarter of this year.

2009

- Preparing for the first Power Generation Forum which is sponsored by local companies and the government.

2010

- Work as a task force group. We meet and work in case of needs and based on ahead of time plans. So, our involvements and efforts can be materialized and converted to achievements.

South Africa - North

2008

- GOLD South Africa in Pretoria (there is another GOLD Affinity Group in Cape Town) had an Emotional Intelligence Workshop with Dr. Marie-

Louise Barry, 5 August 2008. It was very successful and everyone walked away with a better understanding of why people do what they do and how we can improve team dynamics.

- Most of the participants were IEEE members, but most of them did not know they were part of GOLD. This event gave them an opportunity to network with other engineers and get more information about their group.

2009

- The event to market yourself received positive responses. It provided newly graduated students with the confidence to go into a workplace and present their skills accordingly.

2010

- Organizing a STEP event.
- Attendance at SBC 2010.
- Winning the IEEE Day Photo competition.

South Africa - South

2008

- Success story was to find enough IEEE members and graduate student members to support the creation of the second GOLD AG in South Africa.
- The first meeting of the new GOLD Cape Town Affinity Group was a success story as we managed to get 14 people to attend, even senior members from the South African Institute of Electrical Engineering came to support the formation of the new Affinity Group.

2009

- Collaboration with the University of Cape Town Student Branch.

2010

- Our incoming Chair-elect, Joyce Mwangama hosted a very successful STEP event with the University of Cape Town Student Branch.

Spain

2008

- The setup of a mailing list to contact all GOLD members was a moderate

success. The list is used to announce activities, and also to post job offers by members, ask for advice about companies, and so on.

Tunisia

2010

- Photo Contest Award.
- Membership development.

Turkey

2008

- In GOLD Turkey, we have a successful deal with Student Branches, especially in Istanbul. In Turkey there are 43 SBs and 13 of them are in Istanbul. We prepare some of the activities together, e.g. social activities. And we also organize together with Student Branches conversations about graduation and careers. It is very useful for the undergraduate student.

2010

- Seminars we attend in universities really help for students to choose suitable jobs, choose a master degree or an academic life by telling our experiences.

United Kingdom & Republic of Ireland

2008

- We work closely with IEEE professional societies and local chapters in organising joint events for GOLD and professional society members. Here are some good examples.
- Title: OFCDM - A Promising Wireless Multiple Access Technique
Speaker: Prof. Jiangzhou Wang (University of Kent)
Date: Friday 9th February 2007
Venue: University College London
Co-organisers: (1) UCL Adastral Park Campus;
(2) IEEE UKRI GOLD
- Title: Random Matrix Theory Analysis of Multiple Antenna Communication Systems
Speaker: Prof. Matthew McKay (HKUST)

- Date: Friday 29th June 2007
 Venue: University College London
 Co-organisers: (1) Dept. of Electronic and Electrical Engineering, UCL;
 (2) IEEE UKRI Communications Chapter (COM);
 (3) IEEE UKRI GOLD.
- Title: An overview of the IEEE 802.16 (WiMAX) Standards
 Speaker: IEEE ExpertNow
 Date: Wednesday 12th December 2007
 Venue: University College London
 Co-organisers: (1) Dept. of Electronic and Electrical Engineering, UCL;
 (2) IEEE UKRI Education Society Chapter;
 (3) IEEE UKRI GOLD.
 - Title: Ultra-Wideband (UWB) Radio Technology
 Speaker: IEEE ExpertNow & Dr. Xiaoli Chu (King's College London)
 Date: Tuesday 4th March 2008
 Venue: University College London
 Co-organisers: (1) Dept. of Electronic and Electrical Engineering, UCL;
 (2) IEEE UKRI Education Society Chapter;
 (3) IEEE UKRI GOLD;
 (4) IEEE UKRI Computer Chapter;
 (5) IEEE UKRI Communications Chapter.
 - Title: A Theory of RFID Anti-Collision Protocols
 Speaker: Prof. Tak-Shing Peter Yum (Chinese University Hong Kong)
 Date: March 2008
 Venue: University College London, University of Cambridge and
 University of Liverpool
- Support by Royal Academy Engineering Distinguished Visiting Fellowship

2010

- We were able to consolidate a sub-committee that was engaged with the IEEE GOLD activities. During this time we have achieved a lot including conducting a society wide survey of society members, organising the essay competition with other competitions in the pipeline and organisation of GOLD events at the last WCCI among other activities. These may not seem like much for a two year period but the effort required was quite a lot. These activities take time to manage and organise and as volunteers we have committed a lot of time (volunteer time) to ensure these endeavours were a success.

R8 GOLD AG Failing Stories

Croatia

2008

- We have serious problems in organizing social events that would enable the GOLDies to meet each other. We have trouble finding volunteers to organize such events. Perhaps the solution lies in merging with the Student Branch social events.

2009

- There are some things that we wanted to do but did not get to in 2009: visiting some companies, Distinguished Lecture workshop, etc. There wasn't really something we organized that failed this year.

2010

- Considering the number of events organized, this was quite a successful year. However, comparing the results to our plan, there have been some ideas which haven't been realized.
- First, STEP Three about working abroad, scheduled in October 2010, had to be postponed due to schedule problems. Because of the student calendar (the schedule of student lectures and exams), only few weeks during semester are convenient and in those "candidate" weeks both room and speaker have to be available in order to fulfil the pre-requisites for an event. This was not the case with our STEP Three event.
- Secondly, except for lectures as a part of STEP workshops, there weren't any Distinguished Lectures in 2010 which we will definitely try to improve in 2011. Also, discussion sessions and humanitarian activities were not organized, although there were some concrete ideas.

Egypt

2010

- During the implementation of the different phases of each of our programs we may have faced some obstacles but we are always able to overcome them.

Finland

2008

- There is little or no activity besides in one city in Finland, Oulu. It is difficult to organize activities in many places with only a small amount of volunteers dedicated to GOLD.

2009

- It is difficult to maintain continuity, as the active volunteers leave from academia to industry.

2010

- In Helsinki, capital of Finland the GOLD AG hasn't been established, yet!

France

2008

- There weren't any GOLD activities here before.

2010

- In 2010, the France GOLD Chair was involved mostly in IEEE at regional level and global level, and there was no one to take this position in charge.

Italy

2008

- The Affinity Group has not experienced very significant failures, but I would like to organize some events in partnership with other AG Groups about different issues.
- Then I would candidate my country to host the next GOLD Congress.

Lebanon

2008

- We do not have much involvement and participation in our activities from the members registered as GOLD in Lebanon, also the security situation in Lebanon has prevented us from meeting several times. Now everything

is back in order in the country and we will be moving on with the activities and meetings as it should be.

2010

- We were not able to come up with a second STEP event. It was due to short time we had to prepare for it, as we were on the one hand bound by the University Midterm exams, and on the other hand the speaker's squeezed timetable.

Morocco

2008

- To participate to the last event of SBC 2008 was really a very failing story, no one of our section has attended this event, I had prepared all my papers but the section didn't help for the fly cost.

2010

- To attend the Student Branch and GOLD Congress in Belgium, in order to get more and real networking with the other AGs.

Nigeria

2008

- General AG meetings: a GOLD meeting was planned for June 14 2008 to be held immediately after the Nigeria section Technical meeting. The Nigeria section meeting did not start on time. This resulted in the inability of the GOLD AG meeting holding.
- NYSC reach out: The South West GOLD unit organized a program for the NYSC members (fresh graduates) in camp March 2008. It was not very successful due to the fact that the Lagos State NYSC staff requested for a form of donation by IEEE to the Lagos State NYSC camp before access could be granted to the fresh graduates. This was not immediately feasible considering time factor.

2009

- The scheduled gymconference 2009 could not hold as a result of the strike action by the lecturers in Nigerian universities. The gymconference is a joint local Student Branch and GOLD congress held in conjunc-

tion with the Younger members' network of IET. The last one was successfully held at the Obafemi Awolowo University in Ife with over 300 persons in attendance.

- The planned NYSC camp reach out program is still yet to be achieved. The program is to reach out to members of the National Youth Service Corp while they are in the camp. The aim is to harvest members into IEEE from the fresh graduates from various institutions and encourage them to continue their IEEE membership.

2010

- We were not able to successfully host the GOLD Humanitarian workshop.
- The Nigerian delegates could not attend the SBC2010 due to lack of visa and late issue of visa.
- The IEEE Nigeria GOLD AG website was poorly updated throughout the year.
- Several planned programs were not held. Efforts were centered on the success of NIGERCON 2010.

Portugal

2010

- It is very complex to keep GOLD Portugal constantly alive and running continuous events. The professional lives of the officers is making it difficult to keep GOLD in good health. The relations with Student Branches are crucial.

Russia - Siberia

2009

- Siberia AG initiated an adventurous effort to have cooperation among some technical local companies. Our group started negotiation to share each other's network and manpower in arranging and advertising events so that they can reduce cost and maximize revenue with bigger reaching capability. Unfortunately we failed to reach any agreement yet.

2010

- The failures have been a simple lack of activity through the years. GOLD often has joint meetings with other societies, with is a great benefit for

GOLD. However, our section has few steady GOLD members who return and attend multiple events. There is no cohesion among the group, probably due to the scarcity of events.

- Even though events generally have reasonable attendance, there are only three events per year. IEEE activities only see a small number of GOLD members attending compared to non-GOLD members.

Saudi-Arabia - East

2008

- We were planning to conduct a big event on the local level for engineering and students with contribution from different countries, however, due to some regulations and limitations of people we couldn't continue our plan.

2009

- The number of officers and members decrease due to their commitment to their job requirements. Hopefully, the group will recover and more activities will be conducted on.

2010

- Re-building of the group, this group exists of young members and they are very active in their work life. This fact leads to sudden mobilization from one place to another which in turn affects the group stabilization.

South Africa - North

2008

- At the moment the only failing story is more a case of last minute information distribution resulting in a lesser amount of participants.

2009

- Overspending of the budget for beverages.

2010

- The plan was to organize at least 2 STEP events in 2010, only one materialized.

South Africa - South

2008

- GOLD Cape Town is still too new to have failure stories. Maybe it is a failure that we have not had our second meeting yet.

2009

- We have not yet implemented the STEP program.

2010

- We held a membership development talk at the Cape Peninsula University of Technology. Fifteen students were eager to join IEEE as student members. They wanted their membership dues to be deducted from their University fees – which turned out to be problematic. They refused to pay using any other way. We hope to resolve this issue during 2011.

Spain

2008

- In general, the lack of people volunteering to organize or participate in GOLD activities would be the worst failure of the group.

Turkey

2010

- We are late for IEEE STEP sessions.

United Kingdom & Republic of Ireland

2008

- We held the annual UK&RI GOLD meeting on 19 June and planned to recruit more volunteers and promote GOLD activities. But only one member turned up and showed her interests in serving as a GOLD volunteer.

2010

- We were not able to organise a STEP program, however this year we already have a proposal for organising a STEP program along with the support of different universities in the UK.

R8 GOLD AG Main Problems

Benelux

2008

- Some people that were interested in taking an active part, lose interest after a while. More active motivation during the event and being able to provide more advantages in being active in GOLD can solve it.

2010

- At this moment the GOLD Affinity Group is quite inactive. During the coming 2 years I will try to change this by organising some new events and by participating in existing events.

Bosnia & Herzegovina

2008

- The main problem is how to get more members involved in active work of the Affinity Group. Experience shows that Graduate Student Members (GSM) are more involved in IEEE work than regular IEEE members, due to more flexible working schemes and the nature of their work. So my suggestion is: we should try to recruit more GSM members and make some core group within them, and lightly involve members from industry (if you have an active member from industry that's better, but it's not the case in the reality).

2009

- As always the main problem is how to get more members involved in active work for the Affinity Group.

2010

- The main problem is how to get more members involved in active work for the Affinity Group, especially after the reform of higher education (i.e. introduction of Bologna process).

Croatia

2008

- We are having problems with connecting our members. One possible solution is to have more social events, perhaps immediately after an interesting lecture. Another problem is that we have far too few members outside academia. We plan to attempt to solve this issue by visiting big Croatian companies and presenting IEEE. This will be coorganized with the Industrial Relations Steering Committee.

2009

- We are still faced with a problem of aligning the times at which the events are organized with the availability of our industry members. Mainly, most of our members are from academia and they insist that the events be held during working hours. This then has the effect of preventing our members from the industry to attend. This we believe is bad since we are constantly trying to achieve higher connection with the industry and increase the number of members from industry and business environment.

2010

- Our biggest problem is the schedule, i.e. finding and managing appropriate dates. Only a limited number of periods are convenient for organizing events.
- In 2010, three of our STEP events were not scheduled in the best periods. STEP Two took place at the end of academic year and Christmas STEP was just before the holidays, which is why they were less attended than, for example, STEP One in September 2009. We were aware of this, but at the time, we didn't have a better option. It is now our experience that all events should be targeted in the September-November and March-May periods.

Czechoslovakia

2009

- IEEE Members after graduation often quit membership.

2010

- Searching for volunteers who are willing to be active in the AG.

Denmark

2008

- Too much bureaucracy within IEEE, and minimal support and too much conservatism from IEEE Denmark Section.

Egypt

2008

- Activities that are planned but not organized due to a lack of time.
- Elections are faced with some fear due to the high responsibility.

2009

- Funding has always been our main problem; however we managed each time to seek alternative solutions and work-arounds to save costs and run the activities with high quality.

2010

- Raising the required funds for running all these programs was our main problem as running such big programs covering all Egypt requires a large sum of money.

Finland

2008

- The challenge is how to reach people from wide geographic areas, not easily arriving to a single destination for a meeting.
- A solution we have considered is using social networking tools at the Internet, namely Facebook and LinkedIn. They seem to attract especially GOLD members, who would like to learn more about the other members.
- Currently we have 127 members in our LinkedIn group, and around 30 members in the Facebook group. LinkedIn provides information and networking on the professional level, whereas Facebook provides a more casual setting. We see both aspects as important.

2009

- Lack of motivated volunteers.
- Not enough connections with section and Region 8 / worldwide GOLD.
- A lot of bureaucracy in applying for rather limited funding.

2010

- Lack of interest, busy members, lack of motivation. Competition with national electrical engineers organizations.

France

2008

- I'm in touch with only some GOLD members that are member of the France section AG, that's all. I will use the SAMIEEE application to find GOLD members in France.
- I was the Student Branches coordinator in Morocco Section for 3 years and now I'm GOLD member for the first year and also the GOLD officer in the France Section AG, so I don't have enough ideas about GOLD activities, rules... I think that the best solution for this problem is to attend the GOLD and Student Branch Congress. After this event, I'm sure that I will have an overview about all things concerning GOLD.

2009

- Members are more interested to IEEE conferences and publications and not section activities and meetings.

2010

- France has lots of GOLD members but there is a big problem in finding volunteers to work for local activities.

Germany

2008

- No clear distinction between young professional within the industry, master students and postgrads. Topics, interests and issues are quite different between those two groups (non-university versus university).
- High rate of different members visiting due to other issues (job, family, kids, job relocation and such). This makes it very hard to build up core groups at certain locations and leaves us with a low rate of volunteers.
- Database issues: a lot of data are inconsistent; people who should be GOLD are not flagged correctly. No easy possibility for IEEE members to flag themselves, e.g. within an online community. No scheduled reporting within member database, e.g. send each month new IEEE GOLD members.

2009

- To address GOLD members which are not active.

Greece

2010

- Sponsorship of the events.
- Volunteers to work about on the events.
- Funds for the events.

Italy

2008

- I had many problems when I founded the Affinity Group with my colleagues, but the enthusiasm helped us thanks to the support of Italy Section and we organized many events since the AG was officially formed in Italy (May 1, 2007).

2010

- The main problems are related to the coordination of the Student Branch Activities since one of them is not active.

Kenya

2010

- Acceptance of our petition by head office.
- Lacking enough support from the section and GOLD coordinating committee.
- Financial problem: basically to finance our operations such as publicity.

Lebanon

2008

- IEEE GOLD Lebanon is a new AG. We do not have much participation in our activities from the members registered as GOLD. To remedy this, we have made contact with the Student Branches in Lebanon, which hold a very large number of members, to have common activities. This will boost

the number of participants in GOLD. Also, if we can make SB members renew their IEEE membership after graduation to become GOLD, this would be very beneficial for us.

2009

- We had a major issue last year that most of the committee members had to travel outside Lebanon due to assignments at work studies. This prevented us from being able to put our planned activities to life. This year, we are in a better state with a new committee member with us, who was a Student Branch chair, and who is residing permanently in Lebanon.

2010

- Frequent travelling of the committee members, due to the nature of the local market which requires engineers to travel abroad for projects. Have overcome this by having GOLD members who do not travel a lot to be part of the committee as well.

Morocco

2008

- Our Affinity Group needs an easy mean to facilitate the online payment for IEEE applications.

2010

- To maintain active members, and increasing our visibility.

Nigeria

2008

- Lack of Members from the Academia: The number of lecturers that actively belong to IEEE is not encouraging in Nigeria. Previous efforts to attract them which included invitation to IEEE events have not yielded desirable results. We plan on inviting more senior lecturers to give talks in our events as well as holding various distinguished lectures. Also in conjunction with senior IEEE members in the US, we plan on using video conferencing to deliver seminars to the Nigeria lecturers.
- Lack of commitment by GOLD members: This may be a general problem within IEEE. One way that we plan to tackle this is by assigning duties to

members and setting tasks and targets to monitor the progresses.

2009

- Lack of members from the Academia.
- Lack of commitment by GOLD members.
- No budget from the section for IEEE GOLD activities.
- Lack of attendance of the GOLD webinars due to inappropriate timing of the events.

2010

- Lack of members from the Academia.
- Poor commitment amongst GOLD members.
- No budget from the section for IEEE GOLD activities. Lack of funds.
- Poor attendance of the GOLD webinars.
- Dwindling interest in IEEE activities by members.
- Poor response to mails.

Portugal

2010

- Keep GOLD people active in the committee and organize continuous events. There is also no actual pre-established plan of events which gives a feeling that GOLD is not solid in Portugal.

Russia - Siberia

2008

- Sponsorship is a problem in any conference preparation, but our situation differs from European by low income from industry and small business. The most papers and projects are from academia.

2009

- One of the problems is a simple lack of activity throughout the years. GOLD often has joint meetings with other units, which is a great benefit for GOLD. However, our group lacks sufficient membership to hold many successful events. We often have to attend non-IEEE members. Quality is more important than quantity once the two main events have taken place. Section has not yet held a meeting of all the local GOLD members.

- The second problem right now is a lack of cohesion and membership. The IEEE memberships are usually looked upon as expensive both for students and new graduates. There are no companies refunded membership dues. This makes it problematic to attract and retain members.

2010

- The relatively low membership.
- We initiated an adventurous effort to have a co-operation among some technical groups active locally. GOLD started negotiation with Tomsk Electron Company to share each other's network and manpower in arranging and advertising events so that they can reduce cost and maximize revenue with bigger reaching capability. Unfortunately, we failed to reach any agreement with TEC.

Saudi-Arabia - East

2008

- Currently, my country has a booming industry and financial market. Local companies are asking employees (our volunteers) to work more hours with paid over times. Also, too many members got engaged with different commitments and obligations (socially and professionally). I believe that the manpower is the main concern for me and my country. We have a lack of engineers and the demand is very high.

2009

- Lack of active members and lack of awareness of the importance of volunteering activities.

2010

- Briefly, time management and harmonization between member's work and life commitments.

South Africa - North

2008

- Setup a structure for events: have a venue on standby, have good report with the venue coordinator to help with possible dates and setting up the venue. Have a list of presenters to inform of an event and let them know

of the event dates well in advance. It is easier to organise an event on a week-night instead of over a weekend. But if the event is longer than 2 hours (excluding the meet and greet between participants) it is better to have it over the weekend.

2009

- Geography is a big problem – the distances between the different Student Branches causes the GOLD candidates to feel isolated.

2010

- Attracting young professionals to GOLD AG events: Scheduling events for young professionals is tricky, events can only occur after hours around 17:00 – 18:30, which makes on-time attendance an issue due to this being peak time for traffic.
- Travel concerns when events finish around 19:00.

South Africa - South

2008

- Organising events that are accessible to all GOLD and Student Branch members in the Cape Town region.
- Might be solved by creating a local GOLD committee consisting of representatives of the Student Branches from various universities in the region.

2009

- Expanding the GOLD committee.

2010

- Expanding student membership at the Cape Peninsula University of Technology. We are planning a different approach for 2011, i.e. establishing student technical chapters first.

Spain

2008

- The difficulty in finding volunteers: many people at early stages of their careers feel that IEEE is not important for them and that volunteering for the profession is not worth it. It is even hard to make them attend meetings.

- The geographical dispersion of engineers in Spain makes it difficult to organize face-to-face meetings without large costs. Virtual meetings usually work better, but they lack many of the benefits that we should provide.

Tunisia

2010

- Financial problems.

Turkey

2008

- We planned more activities than we had this year but communication was a big problem. I suggest that volunteers have to be in contact especially when organizing activities.

2010

- It was really hard to get together with all GOLD members. Some of them are in another city or another country. Also, after being a student, most of them don't want to attend GOLD.

United Kingdom & Republic of Ireland

2008

- We are short of volunteers to organize different types of events and activities for GOLD members.

2009

- It's hard to find volunteers to help organize GOLD events.

2010

- The chapter strongly believes that the real value of your membership can only be unlocked through active society engagement and interaction with other members. In this regards, the main problem that we are facing at the moment is trying to recruit new members to support the different GOLD activities.

R8 GOLD AG Future Plans

Benelux

2008

1. Next annual GOLD weekend.
2. More collaboration with TMC and Student Branches.

2010

1. There are several existing events, for example the Micro-Electronics and Power symposium in Leuven which will be co-organised by GOLD.
2. In cooperation with the Student Branch in Leuven and other Student Branches in the Benelux section, a STEP event will be organised.
3. Other ideas: GOLD networking event or industry days, workshops, ...

Bosnia & Herzegovina

2008

1. Enhance the number of GOLD members in IEEE Bosnia-Herzegovina section.
2. The organization of a meeting of GOLD AGs from South-East Europe.
3. Make a website.

2009

1. To organize talks and lectures about Bologna process at the Faculty of Electrical Engineering in Sarajevo, emphasizing the Master and PhD programs, and also to provide information about graduate courses outside Bosnia-Herzegovina.
2. To continue bringing the ex-student members (now Members or Graduate Student Members), who now work in industry, to talk about their benefits of IEEE.
3. To organize our first STEP program.
4. To finally make a website.

2010

1. To continue bringing the ex-student members (now Members or Graduate

Student Members), who now work in industry, to talk about their benefits of IEEE.

2. To organize our first STEP program (finally, I hope so).
3. To make a joint website with IEEE Student Branch Sarajevo (because it was obvious that we don't have enough volunteering capacity in the AG).

Croatia

2008

1. More events and joint activities with neighbouring countries (Slovenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Montenegro, Macedonia...). We would like to take advantage of the close geographical, cultural and language proximity of those countries and thus establish a larger professional network of our members and volunteers.
2. We also plan to find more volunteers outside our capital (Zagreb) to organize events in other cities/branches.

2009

1. First of all, following the success of "STEP one" event and the interest it aroused in our Section, we plan to have two STEP events in 2010. One will be held in spring and one in autumn. Next, we plan to introduce discussion workshops, based on TEDx recorded lectures. This is planned to start in 2010 and be a regular bi-monthly event. We plan to organize graduate students visits to 3-5 companies, where senior students could get a feel of what it means to be an engineer in a company and get to know business environment.
2. We also plan to organize a Distinguished Lecture workshop on "Emotional Intelligence in Project Management". This is to be organized in cooperation with our Industry Relations Officer and Professional Activities Coordinator. We are now starting cooperation with Project Management Institute (PMI) Croatia, so plan some activities along those lines as well, but those are not yet specified at this time. There will be around six normal lectures in various subjects.

2010

1. In 2011 we plan to organize 2 or 3 STEP events in Zagreb:
 - STEP Three about working abroad (February or March)
 - STEP Four about ideas, venture capital, angel investors (May)
 - STEP Five about post-graduate education (September or October)
2. These topics are planned for Zagreb, but the same or similar events will be

organized also in Osijek (1 or 2) and, hopefully, in Rijeka and Split (one event in each city).

3. This will be the main activities, but we will also try to bring at least two distinguished lecturers, one or two discussion sessions and put some more efforts into humanitarian activities. For the time being, we don't have any concrete details about these additional events.

Czechoslovakia

2009

1. Organize soft skills trainings and social events in order to bring the current GOLDies together.

2010

1. Increase the number and quality of events organized.
2. Try to make use of the STEP programme and organize a STEP event this year. We have a close connection with the local Student Branch so this could make it easier.

Denmark

2008

1. Organizing new seminars and workshops.

Egypt

2009

1. GOLD Elections are scheduled in June 2010, to elect a new GOLD team for the next two years.
2. Continue Egypt's GOLD yearly events; Egyptian Engineering Day, Made In Egypt, Future City competition and First Lego League.

2010

1. Continuing to run all our current activities (EED (10th Round) , MIE (6th Round), FC (4th Round) and FLL (3rd Round)).
2. Conducting monthly sessions in cooperation with all the Student Branches here in Egypt, covering many aspects (Technical Seminars, Training Sessions and Soft Skills).

Finland

2008

1. Continue organizing local events and initiating new activities in new cities in Finland.
2. Also, we like to join the efforts of Students Activities Committee (SAC) and GOLD AG, to jointly organize these activities.
3. Also, we are working together with Baltic Area collaboration efforts within IEEE R8. We had a meeting from 13 to 15 June in Tallinn, where there was many participants from Students and GOLD committees in the Baltic area. This meeting was really successful and encouraging for sharing best practices and experiences in our neighbourhood areas.
4. The newly selected SAC&GOLD officer in Finland section is Maciej Borkowski. He will lead the activities through 2008-2009. He plans to participate to SBC and GOLD congress in London.

2009

1. Survive, possibly expand to another university city in Finland.

2010

1. One huge event at the end of the year.
2. Establishment of Helsinki GOLD AG.

France

2008

1. There is no special plan until now because of the lack of data and also the France GOLD AG is new, it was elected in March 2008.

2009

1. Organisation of election of a GOLD Committee to have more volunteers involved in our activities, more ideas, and more motivation.

2010

1. Elections of a new Committee in France Section are being organized. A new GOLD Chair should be designed in the few coming weeks and should work on the 2011 activities plan.

Germany

2008

1. Try to build up more local GOLD groups within Germany.
2. Work closer together with Student Representative (Germany section was lacking a student representative at section level until now).
3. Build stronger connections with other industry groups (IET, RAS, VDE, GI, ...).
4. Work closer together with section societies. Proposal: GOLD Coordinator or GOLD Affinity Group Chairs should be flagged as part of all societies within their section (without getting journals and such) to ensure they get all e-mail information about societies activities and can share them with GOLD.

2009

1. Restructuring the student and GOLD activities in Germany.

Greece

2010

1. Technical, Educational talks all over the institutes of Greece.
2. 2nd ATHENA Summer School (www.athenasch.gr).
3. 1st STREP Program of IEEE Greece GOLD Affinity Group.

Italy

2008

1. I would like to organize other events in partnership with the Danish GOLD AG and other Affinity Groups of R8 Region. For example, I will organize in the next October a workshop on satellite technologies and applications in EHF frequencies in my University, Rome, "Tor Vergata".

2009

1. The GOLD AG Italy is organizing: "3rd International Symposium on Applied Sciences in Biomedical and Communication Technologies: ISABEL 2010" - Sustainable Communication and Biomedical Technologies- November 07-10, 2010, Rome, Italy.

This conference aims at creating a stage where researchers, scientists and business people can discuss and share ideas at the frontiers of life sciences, pure sciences and engineering.

The global interest towards a sustainable Planet is forcing the industrial and scientific worlds to seek for “sustainable” engineering solutions in order to preserve the natural environment and efficiently exploit the energy, which is a limited resource.

Hence, from 2010 onward, ISABEL will also look upon the application of sciences in biomedical and communication engineering so as to develop novel technologies and solutions that can make our lives “greener”.

2. Organizing 2010 IEEE GOLD Remote Sensing Conference.

2010

1. IEEE AESS Summer School on “Integrated Satellite Communication and Navigation Systems -Advanced Services and Applications, Architectures and Terminals To improve Quality of Life”(ISaCoNaS) will be held in Castellaneta Marina, Puglia, Italy, on July 24-31, 2011.

The aim of this workshop is to provide a vision for role of Integrated Satellite Communication and Navigation Systems and their state of art in helping to drive progress in the 21st century in order to improve the Quality of Life (QoL) for the World Citizen. In particular, this course will focus on Integrated Satellite Systems, Emerging Technologies and relative Value Added Services & Applications which can significantly improve the QoL of World Citizen.

<http://isaconas-workshop.uniroma2.it/>

Kenya

2010

1. To organise 6 professional seminars (2 are STEP Programmes), two humanitarian events, two social gatherings and 1 programming contest.

Lebanon

2008

1. Our main next activity will be “Made in Lebanon” (MIL) and “Made in the Arab World” (MIA) competitions organized by ASTF (Arab Science and Technology Foundation), where IEEE GOLD Lebanon is a partner in the MIA. IEEE GOLD Lebanon has connections with Student Branches

in the universities, and faculty members as well. “Made in Lebanon” competition will have a venue gathering the best Final Year Projects from all Engineering universities in Lebanon, with a jury made out of Professors from these universities to elect the best project in Lebanon. Then the winning team will represent Lebanon in the “Made in the Arab World” competition.

2009

1. GOLD Tour at universities: presentation about GOLD & its benefits for university students.
2. Linux Conferences at universities.
3. STEP Program.
4. Field Trip.

2010

1. STEP event at ESIB University and if possible other universities as well.
2. Take part in Student Branch activities, with a 30 minutes presentation and a Q&A about GOLD and its benefits.
3. Technical Seminars.

Morocco

2008

1. We are now organizing a scientific conference about Information technologies : <http://www.fsr.ac.ma/jostic/>

2010

1. For a good visibility, create our website and Facebook Page.
2. Organize our first STEP event.
3. Organize our first Humanitarian workshop.

Nigeria

2008

1. NYSC reach out: Every Nigerian graduate under 30 years undergoes a mandatory national service. This commences with a camp. We plan to work in conjunction with the National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) to deliver lectures and seminars in these camps around Nigeria and in turn

recruit GOLD members.

2. Excursions: More excursions are being planned for various Student Branches to visit the industry.
3. Engineering Design Contest: The Nigeria GOLD AG is organizing a contest for Nigerian engineering students. To participate in this contest, all final year students are requested to submit their projects to the Students Activities Coordinator for evaluation and entry.
4. Courtesy visits/Publicity: In collaboration with the IEEE Nigeria section executives, we plan to visit senior government officials, ministries, embassies and top notch companies in Nigeria to introduce IEEE to them.
5. SBC2010 in Nigeria: We plan to set up mechanisms to commence raising funds to support hosting the next Student Branch and GOLD congress in Nigeria.

2009

1. NYSC camps reach out program.
2. Excursions – More excursions planned for Student Branches to visit the industry.
3. Engineering Design Contest – for Nigerian engineering students.
4. Courtesy visits to senior government officials, ministries, embassies and top notch companies in Nigeria to introduce IEEE.
5. Attendance to SBC2010.
6. Planning gymnconference for 2011.
7. Re-identification of GOLD members and their present locations.
8. Development of new programs to help bridge the gap between the academia and the industry.
9. Conducting STEP event.
10. GOLD Humanitarian workshop.
11. Distinguished Lectures/Seminars involving the industries.

2010

1. 2011 Gymnconference.
2. STEP Activities.
3. GOLD Humanitarian workshop.
4. Intensive member retention drives.
5. Outreach to fresh graduates on their National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) program.
6. Creating a Facebook group for IEEE Nigeria GOLD AG.
7. Programs to reach out to students on industrial attachments to companies.
8. Courtesy visits to senior government officials, ministries, embassies and

- top notch companies in Nigeria to introduce IEEE.
9. Re-identification of GOLD members and their present locations.
 10. Development of programs that will bridge the gap between the academia and the industry.
 11. Online meetings.
 12. Re-design of the IEEE Nigeria GOLD website to include interactive features.
 13. Membership drives directed at academic staff.
 14. Membership drives directed at the industry.
 15. Recruitment of new volunteers.

Portugal

2010

1. Obtain a solid structure of GOLD Portugal.

Russia - Siberia

2008

1. Young researches from Siberian Universities frequently have no information concerning IEEE and GOLD. We have a plan to organize a seminar devoted this problem.

2009

1. We plan to improve our general approach to meetings, beginning with planning meetings much further out and marketing and advertising of our group to get the word out. In particular, we'll organize and participate in SIBCON 2011 Conference in Krasnoyarsk and took an active part in SIB-INFO Student Paper Contest. I would like to have a meeting with all the local GOLD members.

2010

1. International Siberian Conference on Control and Communications (SIBCON), September 15-16, Krasnoyarsk, Russia
2. Student Paper Contest and Conference on the Information Security (SIB-INFO), April 19-20, Tomsk, Russia

Saudi-Arabia - East

2009

1. Increase number of officers and active members within the group.
2. Plan for new social programs with Student Branches.
3. Participate on organizing local and international events, workshop and conferences.

2010

1. As mentioned here, activities and plans based on need. However, we are thinking of STEP program organization too.

South Africa - North

2008

1. I wish to involve more non-engineers to start a better networking structure.
2. I also want to focus on personal development, such as emotional intelligence, personality analysis, tax and financial advice etc.
3. Establishing a better social network will also promote technical events because more people are aware of the events (even though they are not members) and this in turn will promote the IEEE in terms of a well rounded organisation that is not just focused on technical and technological growth.

2009

1. Create career days to bring student members and GOLD members together while presenting opportunities.

2010

1. Growing the committee.
2. Increasing visibility of the GOLD AG.
3. Organizing at least Two STEP events.
4. Organizing at least Two seminars or talks by industry experts.
5. Closer collaboration with local Student Branches.

South Africa - South

2008

1. I plan to liaise more closely with the Student Branches in the Cape Town area.
2. Get the Student Branches involved in organising events.
3. Train up GOLD members to eventually take over the Affinity Group.
4. Hold more frequent events.

2009

1. Expand the current committee.
2. Implement the STEP program.
3. Hold at least 4 meetings during 2010.

2010

1. Follow-up membership development drive at Cape Peninsula University of Technology with an exciting invited guest speaker (suggested by incoming GOLD AG chair: Shaun Kaplan)
2. Establish student technical chapters at the Cape Peninsula University of Technology.

Spain

2008

1. We intend to organize a Graduation Day to which we will invite all Student Members who graduated in the last two years (for the initial one, next year we will only invite people from onw year). The idea is to have a presentation about IEEE and GOLD, an invited speak about a non-technical topic, and a friendly lunch. The temptative date is mid-October and the place will be Madrid.

Tunisia

2010

1. April 2011: Visit to SOS Childrens' Village in Mahres.
2. May 2011: Robotics Competition in Hammamet.
3. June 2011: Poster Contest Day in ENIS.

4. September 2011: Software Freedom Day in ENIS.
5. November 2011: ICT Companies Day in ENIS (STEP Event).

Turkey

2008

1. We are planning to increase the number of the volunteers in GOLD Turkey.
2. In activities we join/organize we try to introduce IEEE GOLD to student members. Thus we can increase the activities.

2010

1. Our first plan is to introduce IEEE STEP to all GOLD members and also to all the Student Branches. I hope it will increase our member number.
2. Secondly, we want to organize a full day seminar by the help of R8 Professional Activities (for the speaker) and organize bosphorus trip after the seminar.
3. Also, we are planning periodically social meetings with GOLD members.

United Kingdom & Republic of Ireland

2008

1. More events and activities with professional societies and chapters to share expenses and benefit more members.

2009

1. Dr. Xiaoli Chu (King's College London) has started collaborations with the Young Professionals Section of IET East Midlands Region (represented by Sumeet Shah) and the BCS Kingston & Croydon Branch (represented by Doug Legge) in areas such as:
 - Sharing ideas and best practice in running events for younger members;
 - Helping promote each other's events;
 - Getting IEEE members to attend IET events and vice versa;
 - Possibly running joint events in the future.

2010

The CIS GOLD sub-committee aims to help GOLDies enhance their participation in the society and allow them to gain valuable experience in committee membership and society and to educate younger members about the structure of the society and various committees which work behind the scenes.

In this regard, the IEEE GOLD sub-committee is preparing at the moment the following activities that will be implemented in the next months:

1. Activity # 1: To prepare a promotional material to promote the necessity to have a GOLD representative in each of the society's chapters.
Deliverable # 1: a pack to be provided to all the society's chapters, explaining the advantage to have a GOLD representative within them i.e., the GOLD committee would then have a contact point in many regions/chapters etc and local GOLD activities could be established.
1. Activity # 2: To organise once a year a STEP event to gain visibility within the young engineer community in order to show them the advantages to join the IEEE GOLD community.
Deliverable #2: a STEP Event per year organised by different society's chapters.

R8 GOLD AG STEP & Humanitarian Events

General Information

STEP program

The Student Elevation & Transition Partnership (STEP) program was created for local GOLD Affinity Groups to help facilitate the transition of student members as they graduate and become higher grade IEEE members. The program is intended to introduce the opportunities and benefits of IEEE membership during the onset of a career. STEP Program Objectives:

- Recognize student members as they graduate and become part of the local GOLD community.
- Introduce graduating student members to the local IEEE entity (GOLD) beyond the IEEE Student Branch.
- Illustrate IEEE member benefits appropriate for young professional members.
- Retain student members as they are elevated to higher grade IEEE members by communicating and demonstrating the value of IEEE membership for young professionals starting new careers.

For more information visit:

www.ieee.org/membership_services/membership/gold/step.html



Humanitarian Workshop

The IEEE Humanitarian Workshop is an event designed to raise awareness of how technology can make a positive impact on the world in which we live. By inviting speakers who are currently playing leading roles in applying technology to humanitarian causes, it is desired that the workshop will provide engineers with greater access to such projects, and even to share their own ideas for future projects. Since humanitarian projects are of great interest to the younger generations of IEEE members, it is expected that the Workshop will bolster IEEE's efforts in the recruitment and retention of such members.

For more information visit:

www.ieee.org/membership_services/membership/gold/gold_communities.html

Events held in Region 8

AG	STEP Program: Dates / # Attendees	Humanitarian Workshops: Date
Benelux	27-Nov-2009 / 25	
Bosnia & Herzegovina		
Croatia	23-Sep-2009 / 50 15-Jun-2010 / 35 3-Nov-2010 / 21 21-Dec-2010 a / 23 21-Dec-2010 b / 23	
Czechoslovakia		
Denmark		
Egypt		
Finland	30-Oct-2009 / 25 18 & 19-Nov-2010 / 65	
France		
Germany		Aug-2010
Greece		
Italy	5-Jul-2010 / 70	
Jordan		
Kenya	22 & 25 Jun-2010 / 84	2-Feb-2010
Lebanon	7-Oct-2010 / 85	
Morocco		
Nigeria	5-Dec-2009 / 55 26-Mar-2010 / 167 25-Sep-2010 / 59	
Portugal	7-Oct-2010 / 50	
Russia		
Russia - Siberia		1 HW in 2009
Saudi-Arabia - East		
Saudi-Arabia - West		
South Africa - North	29-Jul-2010 / 78	
South Africa - South	7-Oct-2010 / 76	
Spain		
Tunisia	8-Oct-2010 / 37	
Turkey		
United Arab Emirates		
United Kingdom & Republic of Ireland		

R8 GOLD AGs & Chairpersons 2011

GOLD Affinity Group	2008	2009	2010	2011	2011 Chairperson
Benelux	R	R	R		Valentijn De Smedt
Bosnia & Herzegovina	R	R	R		Omer Tanovic
Croatia	R	R	R		Ana Katalinic
Czechoslovakia	R	R	R		Martin Slanina
Denmark	R				Simone Frattasi
Egypt	R	R	R		Mohamed Raafat
Finland	R	R	R		Rafal Sliz
France	R	R	R		Angel Talamona
Germany	R	R			Oliver Prinz
Greece			R		Nicolas Sklavos
Iraq					Mohammed H. Yasen
Italy	R	R	R		Cosimo Stallo
Jordan	R				Mohammad Salah
Kenya			R		Kelvin Singoei
Kuwait					F. Abul-Hassan
Lebanon	R	R	R		Marc-Joe Chedid
Morocco	R		R		Imade Benelallam
Nigeria	R	R	R		Prince Ibe
Portugal			R		João Figueiras
Russia					Dimitry Baranov
Russia - Siberia	R	R	R		Oleg V. Stukach
Saudi-Arabia - East	R	R	R		Faisal A. Al-Yemni
Saudi-Arabia - West					Noureddin Ibrahim
South Africa - North	R	R	R		Keoikantse Marungwana
South Africa - South	R	R	R		Shuan Kaplan
Spain	R				Mateo Soto
Sweden					Amir Zahoor
Switzerland					Mihail Prundaru
Tunisia			R		Habib M. Kammoun
Turkey	R		R		Bilge Akdogan
United Arab Emirates		R	R		Fadi Aloul
United Kingdom & Republic of Ireland	R	R	R		Snaider Carrillo

LEGEND:

	Active AG
	Inactive AG
	New AG
	Not yet existing AG
R	Year Report received

R8 GOLD Award Winners

2008

MGA GOLD Achievement Award:

Adrian Pais (R8), Benelux Section

For extraordinary leadership and valuable contributions to the development of the IEEE GOLDRush newsletter.

2009

MGA GOLD Achievement Award:

João Figueiras (R8), Portugal Section

For outstanding contributions to the public visibility of IEEE by creating the “GOLD Around the World” video.

George S. D. Gordon (R8), U.K. & Rep. Of Ireland Section

For exceptional leadership and outstanding contributions to the development of the IEEE GOLDRush Newsletter.

Lisa Lazareck (R8), U.K. & Rep. Of Ireland Section

For outstanding success in increasing GOLD activities within the IEEE EMBS Society.

Region 8 GOLD Outstanding Activity Award

Nigeria IEEE GOLD Affinity Group, Chair: Prince Ibe

2010

MGA Challenge:

Salima Kaissi (R8), France Section

MGA GOLD Achievement Award:

Salima Kaissi (R8), France Section

For her outstanding contributions to public visibility of IEEE by creating and implementing the idea of establishing a global IEEE Day.

Nana Ampofo-Anti (R8), South Africa Section

For his dedicated efforts toward the success of IEEE EPICS-High Projects that have fostered IEEE member engagement through service to the community.

Region 8 GOLD Outstanding Activity Award

Egypt IEEE GOLD Affinity Group, Chair: Mohamed Rafaat

2011

IEEE GOLD Affinity Group Hall of Fame Award:

Finland IEEE GOLD Affinity Group, Chair: Rafal Sliz

For outstanding work done by extremely vibrant GOLD Affinity Group and for astonishing numbers of events that resulted in an increased amount of new members and an amplified visibility of IEEE countrywide and globally.

IEEE Day

IEEE Day Celebrations Span Six Continents

by Amanda Davis, *The Institute Online*

An idea conceived by a single IEEE member sparked 75 celebrations involving thousands of people around the world this year. IEEE Day spanned two days, 7 and 8 October, to give sections and other geographic units flexibility in planning their celebrations. Included were technical talks and seminars, university campus events, workshops, pizza parties—however local IEEE units chose to celebrate the occasion.

The idea for the special day was one of the winning entries in a contest held this year, the 2010 IEEE Member and Geographic Activities Challenge. IEEE members were asked to submit ideas for projects that would deliver tangible products and services, and increase the value of IEEE membership. Member Salima Kaissi had a winning proposal.

Kaissi, the Graduates of the Last Decade (GOLD) chair of the France Section and member of the Region 8 GOLD committee, founded the first IEEE Student Branch in Morocco in 2005 at the National School of Applied Sciences, in Tangier. She says her idea for IEEE Day was inspired by IEEE events held in 2009. First there were the numerous worldwide events sparked by the celebration of IEEE's 125th anniversary. Then there was IEEEExtreme, the annual global software challenge in which teams of IEEE student members compete to solve a set of programming problems within 24 hours.

“Although I did not participate in IEEEExtreme, I followed it on Facebook and was intrigued by the interaction between members from different countries who were updating their progress and sharing photos of their teams,” Kaissi says.

IEEEExtreme was for students only, however, and Kaissi wanted to involve more people.

“I wanted an annual event in which all members could celebrate IEEE,” she says. “And another anniversary event probably wouldn't occur for at least another five years.” So she suggested celebrating an IEEE Day, which was held on 7 and 8 October. Some events were held a few days before or after to accommodate units with scheduling conflicts.

IEEE Day events took place on six continents and in all 10 IEEE regions.

TALKS AND INDUSTRY VISITS

Members of the IEEE Uruguay Section celebrated by holding several lectures. With support from the IEEE Solid-State Circuits Society and the GOLD group in Uruguay, student members from the University of the Republic and Catholic University, both in Montevideo, organized an IEEE Solid-State Circuits Society Distinguished Lecturers Tour. Four industry experts from the United States and India traveled to Cidade Universitária, in São Paulo, Brazil, on 5 October, and to the University of the Republic in Montevideo two days later to talk about the challenges in designing CMOS wireless systems-on-a-chip, and about microprocessor design in the nanoscale era.

The IEEE South Africa Section's Educational Activities chair, Excellent Sithole, organized a Q&A session about IEEE with co-workers at his employer, Denel Dynamics, in Centurion, which manufactures tactical missiles, precision-guided weapons, and unmanned aerial vehicles. Sithole gave an overview of IEEE and highlighted the benefits of membership.

IEEE student members at the Princess Sumaya University for Technology, in Amman, Jordan, held Linux Fest under the IEEE banner—a day

of seminars and hands-on workshops dedicated to promoting Linux and other open-source software such as Ubuntu, a Linux derivative. The event, which took place on 9 October on the university campus, was free and open to people with any level of programming knowledge.

Sessions and workshops were taught by representatives from Web technology companies including Google and Jeeran, a Web-hosting company in Amman. Topics included gaming with Linux, Ubuntu for beginners, and creating extensions for the Google Chrome Web browser and applications for the Android mobile operating system. Members of the Jordan Open Source Association, created to promote open-source applications, stood ready to install Linux on attendees' computers.

BARBECUE, BAKING, BOWLING

Some IEEE members just wanted to have fun. A pair of Student Branches in Australia celebrated IEEE Day by taking to the outdoors. On 7 October, the Australian National University's IEEE Student Branch, in Canberra, and the University of Queensland IEEE Student Branch's Power & Energy Society chapter each held barbecues on their campus to promote IEEE and encourage people to join.

The IEEE Women in Engineering group's professional and student chapters in Ottawa, Ont., Canada, celebrated the event on 7 October at the University of Ottawa and Carleton University by giving away free home-baked cupcakes decorated with the IEEE logo.

Also on 7 October, IEEE Student Branch members from five New Jersey schools threw an IEEE Day party in the Stevens Institute of Technology's bowling alley, in Hoboken. Student members from Stevens as well as from County College of Morris, Fairleigh Dickinson University, Montclair University, and the New Jersey Institute of Technology competed in friendly bowling tournaments and networked while eating pizza.

PHOTO FINISH

IEEE members were invited to post photographs of their activities to the IEEE Day Web site's photo gallery before 16 October for a chance to win one of 10 prizes. Photos had to be of members participating in an IEEE Day event such as teaching in a classroom, working in a lab, giving a tech talk, or building equipment. All IEEE members were invited to vote on their favorite photos. Owners of the 10 top-rated photos received US \$300, and their organizational units received \$600.

This year's IEEE Day was the first but might not be the last. The IEEE Member and Geographic Activities Board is scheduled to decide on 18 November whether to have it again next year.

The turnout was impressive, according to Susan Hutton, project manager with MGA, in Piscataway, N.J. "This program far exceeded our expectations," Hutton says. "With only about three months to plan, a very small committee managed to engage thousands of members across the globe to celebrate IEEE."

IEEE Day Facts

Number of reported events: 78
Estimated number of total events: 100

Top countries:

1. United states - 15 events
2. India - 11 events
3. Egypt - 4 events
4. Portugal - 3 events

Number of official website visits:
12000 from 109 countries

Number of web hits of IEEE Day:
around 62000

GOLD Around the World

by João Figueiras

During the year of 2008 in Quebec City, Canada, at IEEE Sections Congress 2008, John Vig, 2008 IEEE President-Elect, ran a session about IEEE 125th Anniversary to happen on May 13, 2009. During his speech, John presented the idea of a one-year long, worldwide celebration aiming at bringing people together for the celebration of the 125 years of engineering the future. Those words made me wonder on how I could contribute to this celebration on a global scale.

After thinking for a while, I unwitting and mechanically followed the example given by Ibrahim Gedeon, Chief Technology Officer, TELU, during his keynote speech at opening ceremony. Ibrahim's speech caught my attention since almost no text was present in his slides. He made it different, conveying the message by visual graphics. That gave the example: think out-of-the-box.

The idea popped in my head. People around the world could simply film a short video holding a sheet of paper with the IEEE 125th anniversary logo and passing it over from one side to the other of the video screen. This simple video did not seem too impressive at the beginning, however, by placing short videos

from all around the world in a single video stream, the global perspective would be achieved.

And then, the work started, until the beginning of 2009, a website was created and anyone could submit his videos. The initial acceptance by the cyber community was warmly unexpected. Several messages from around the world arrived to my mailbox and videos started to be submitted.

During this year, there could be counted 56 independent submissions in a total of more than 100 videos from 33 different countries. After each submission, the video was updated so that the new contribution would be appended to the video stream. By the end of the year, the video was compiled in a final cut, which now can be viewed at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9G0H63Z0zUw> or scan the QR code below and jump straight to the video.



Conclusion

This book concludes three years of hard and tremendous work done by people within the group called IEEE R8 GOLD: starting from great and deeply involved volunteers, GOLD Chairs and Coordinators in national sections and finishing with overworked but enthusiastic members of GOLD R8 Committee.

IEEE GOLD is not just a group of people that share their ideas and visions of a better tomorrow anymore, it has become a group of people that implement and fulfill their dreams and make the world better.

The doubled amount of GOLD members in Region 8 within the past two years is the best proof of the importance of GOLD among young professionals. This group became an indisputable and extremely important link between students of engineering and the professional world along with the industry.

This book is focused on the great activities and developments without which the present-day IEEE would not be so rich with ideas, concepts and open for the surrounding world. There are no big ideas, discoveries and progresses without failure. This book consists of information about failures and activities that didn't work and without which every success would not taste so sweet.

It is important to mention two programs developed to support GOLD members' initiatives – Student Transition & Elevation Partnership (STEP) and Humanitarian Workshops program. Both programs help young professionals in organizing great events and guarantee financial and technical support.

The book also consists of plans and visions of young activists from Region 8, which might bring a great impact on the world surrounding us. Finally, all the information gives undeniable evidence of great potential enclosed in the current generation of GOLD and it brings a **Guarantee Of Lifetime Development (GOLD)**.

Graduates of Last Decade (GOLD) is the group of IEEE members that have completed their first academic degree within the last 10 years.

The **GOLD** program has been established to provide the framework and tools for the sections' use in retaining recent graduates.

For questions about R8 GOLD please contact

r8gold@ieee.org

For more information about R8 GOLD please visit our webpage

www.ieeer8.org/gold

