

AESS Board of Governors Meeting

Member Services

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AESS support to Chapters

Current strategy:

- Chapter rebates, a.k.a. Operational Funding (\$50 per meeting, max 300\$ per year)
- Special projects (up to \$5000, ideal proposals between \$300 and \$600)
- Additional Support:
 - BCotY Award
 - Travel support for Chapter Chairs to attend Regional Chapter Summits
 - Travel support for Distinguished Lecturers
 - Support through the AESS Short Courses



Motion #1

It is moved to discontinue providing Operational Funding chapter support (\$50 per meeting for up to \$300) and move into one that provides each chapter with a regular and clear opportunity to request this support each year, rather than the mechanism in use that attempts to send the funding without having essential information that would be provided by such a chapter request, including a current officer contact and the necessary information for funds transfer. The amount for 2021 will be \$35,000.

Motion comes from committee, no 2nd is needed.

Rationale for Motion #1

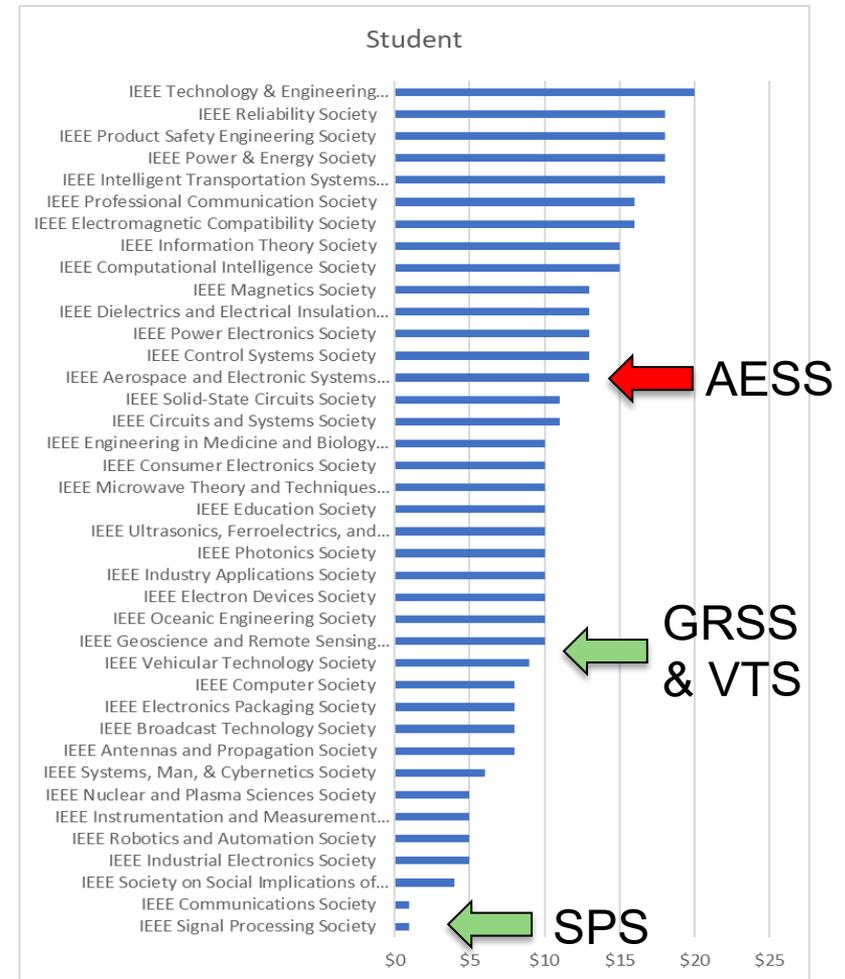
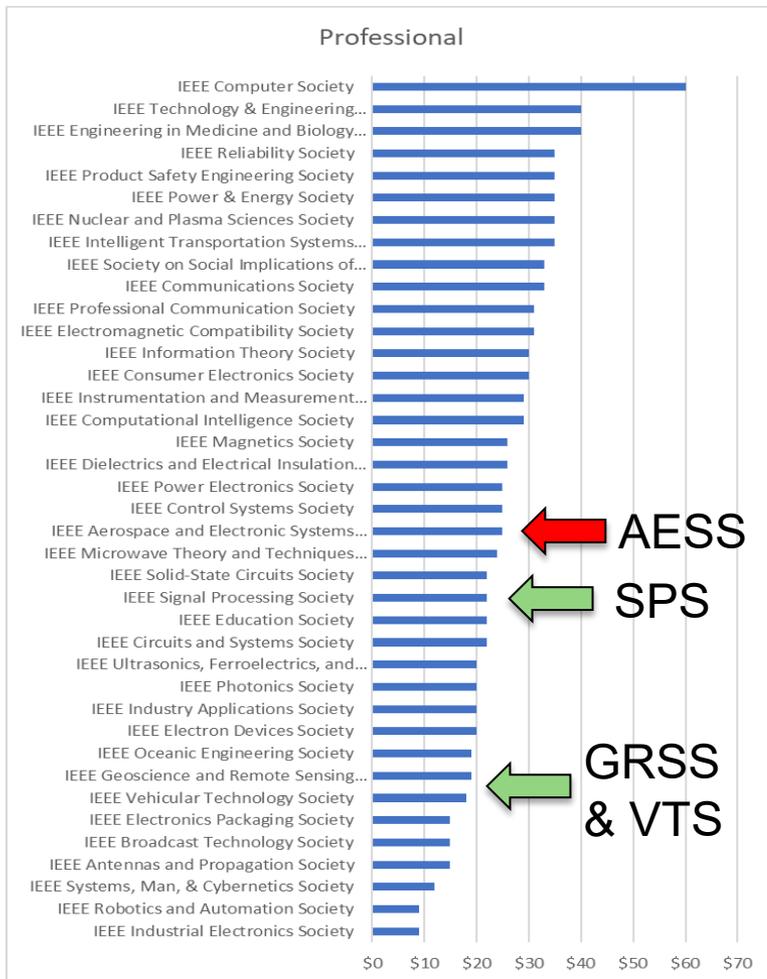
The current mechanism is “push” from the society, and requires the society to chase after chapters in a frequently unsuccessful effort to get information needed to transfer a small amount of funding. Many chapters are non-responsive and require repeated efforts, often never successful, both to get the correct contact information and to get the account information. The transition to a chapter “pull” approach eliminates a great deal of inefficiency and ensures the chapter wishes to effect the transfer and that the society has the information to provide the funding.

Further, the intention of chapter support is to encourage local activities to serve AESS members in the society’s fields of interest, but the auto-push approach counts only meeting numbers without regard to the technical interests involved or membership served. In the case of some joint chapters, particularly, there may be a great deal of effort expended to attempt to provide support, where there is no interest in this level of funding, or few chapter meetings in the society fields of interest or very few members to support.

AESS Membership Fees

- Current AESS membership dues (Full Year):
 - Professional: \$25.00
 - Student: \$13.00
- IEEE membership dues (Full Year):
 - Professional: min \$157.00 MAX \$171.00
[~15%]
 - Student: \$27.00 MAX \$32.00
[~45%]

IEEE Society Membership Fees



Motion #2

It is moved to reduce the AESS student membership dues from \$13.00 down to \$5.00 for the Full Year membership, effective in 2021.

Motion comes from committee, no 2nd is needed.

Rationale for Motion #2

The careful analysis performed by the Member Services Committee has shown that the AESS membership dues are larger than for other IEEE Societies that share similar technical interest and potentially have a membership overlap with AESS (e.g. GRSS, VTS, SPS). This especially applies to student dues as the above Societies have recently adopted a recruiting strategy based on a lower pricing for younger members.

Most importantly, we evaluated the impact of the AESS membership fees for professionals and students by computing the ratio of the corresponding dues over the IEEE membership dues. This analysis revealed that the impact is about 15% for professionals whereas it is around 45% for students.

By lowering the AESS student membership dues down to \$5 allows to limit that percentage to 17% also for student members.

This modification is also intended to convey a positive message from AESS to its youngest members in these difficult times.