Report IEEE Section Congress (SC) 22-24 August 2014

by Leo P. Ligthart

History

During IEEE SC 2011, AESS organized an AESS Chapters
Summit

Due to high costs and lack of money/sponsoring it was decided not to have an AESS Chapters Summit 2014

Sponsoring actions

Alfonso and Leo put efforts for sponsoring by 12 European companies and institutes with strong AESS links
Thales NL, Thales France, Qinetic UK, DLR Germany, MoD Netherlands, NCI NATO, Selex Italy, ESA-ESTEC, EADS Germany, NLR Netherlands, Fraunhofer Germany, Bumar Electronics Poland



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Lessons learned

- Start of sponsoring initiatives too late
 For substantial funding most organizations decide in 2013 what to sponsor in 2014
- Goals and objectives not clear
- No information about Chapter Chairs attendances



Personal Experiences IEEE-SC 2014

- 1. Event was a success
- 2. During the event there was ample time for informal meetings and discussions
- 3. Good promotion of IEEE-BENELUX (Belgium, Netherlands and Luxembourg) and 3 technical universities in The Netherlands presenting attractive demos
- 4. Seven AESS members present in the event
- 5. Setup of the IGNITE sessions appreciated, also by IEEE as well as by many IGNITE speakers and attendees
- 6. IEEE will certainly evaluate the IGNITE sessions
- 7. All IGNITE presentations have been video recorded
- 8. IEEE organized the IGNITE sessions professionally
- 9. The sessions were very informative and were followed by many attendees
- 10. The sessions were well prepared and presented
- 11. It is more difficult than a 1 hour presentation



Personal Experiences

- 12. Due to a strict time schedule of 5 minutes presentation and 1 minute to introduce the speaker there was no time for questions
- 13. My IGNITE presentation went well. It covered aspects which were recognized by many others, namely there are active chapters and less active chapters. Feedback on my presentation was given directly after my IGNITE session. Also the examples of projects and programs as well as the list of actions to activate chapters were commented by 3 attendees.
- 14. Major comments were related to questions as: "How can societies (e.g. AESS) stimulate chapters and sections so that they become more active?" and "Which concrete actions have been done by AESS in the last 3 years and which actions will be done in coming 3 years?" and "Where can I find what AESS is doing in stimulating

chapters?"

Personal Experiences

- 15. I explained in more detail the actions (primarily related to AESS topics) which were listed in my IGNITE presentation and the examples which illustrate how AESS operates
- 16. I understood the message that AESS can be THE IEEE initiator for making less-active chapters more active
- 17. I send my experiences to last BoG meeting, sept 2014. The BoG should decide on needed actions in order to take a leading role in IEEE for strengthening the heart beat of chapters. With such positive decision AESS becomes the first society with this mission. Of course concrete plans are needed and progress should be reported into IEEE channels

Next, a selection of my slides



INSPIRING OUR LEADERS Of TOMORROW

Meeting Title: Technical Society Chapters are the heart-beat of IEEE

LOCATION: AMSTERDAM

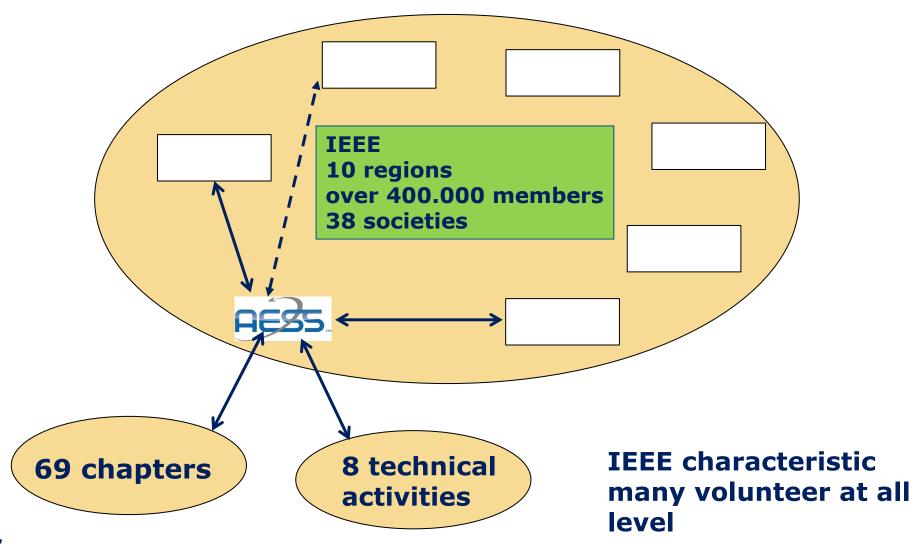
DATE: 23 August 2014

Author: Leo Ligthart

SECTIONS CONGRESS /// 2014



Continuous strengthening of IEEE is all we want The stronger the chapters, the stronger the heartbeat



IGNITE theme:Make less active chapters more active

Activities in IEEE society

	Technical panels	Industrial relations	standards	committees
education	tutorials	conferences	publications	learning

Statement: fast/strong heartbeat of chapter contributes to strong technical society and thus to IEEE

Needed for stronger chapter heartbeat:

- **☐** Stimulate less active chapters
- □ Stimulate cooperation with other chapters/societies
- **☐** Award active chapters



Real world works on multi-disciplinary projects and programs



Strengthening chapters' heartbeat requires actions between societies and chapters

- Multi-disciplinary initiatives
- □ Communications bringing chapters together



Ideas for Chapters chairs

Make chapters attractive by

Stimulating solicited leaders to share knowledge with other chapters

Bringing together less active chapters with members from active chapters

and

Diversify the organization

Share activities and maximize involvement

Motivate members and officers to serve in IEEE

Optimize and recognize volunteer contributions

- Recruit
- Show clear opportunities
- Allow and accept time constraints
- Use volunteer interests

Ideas for Chapter chairs

Demonstrate members benefits enhancing professional growth and personal development



IEEE slogan: Join the ranks of leaders in a global organization

Ideas for chapter member tasks

Plan meetings
Chair a committee
Evaluate award candidates
Counsel, mentor students
Work with finances
Create a newsletter
Create/maintain a website



Ideas for stronger chapter heartbeat

Chapter level
Connect new members with
experienced members
Create a mentor program
for technical juniors

Members level

CONNECT with colleagues

NETWORK with others in and outside your chapter

CONTRIBUTE your time to IEEE in your field of interest **GAIN** your management and leadership skills

EXPAND your knowledge **IMPROVE** the perception and image of engineers



Stronger heartbeat by advanced education

- **□** Distinguished lectures
- ☐ (on-line) tutorials
- ☐ Initiatives providing benefits for younger IEEE members and mentors
- Mentoring students and young professionals allowing for quick integration in technical societies



Stronger heartbeat by contributions to and benefits from conferences

- Chapters can support local arrangements
- Chapters can provide local speakers and/or resources for practical workshops
- Chapters get access to speakers and presenters
- Chapters get access to presentations, video, etc.
- Chapters can propose Awards for Young
 Professionals and respected seniors



Multi-disciplinary examples

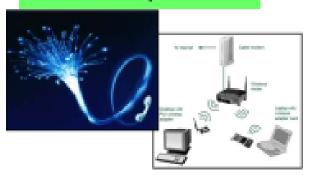


Services: comms, nav, observation/sensing





Technologies: wireless, wired



Integration Concept





Environments: outer, inner



Users: civil, military

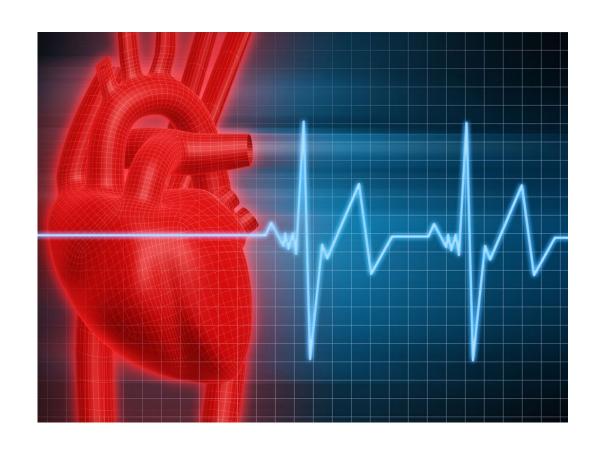


Conclusion IGNITE presentation

- 1. Chapters are the real heartbeat of IEEE
- 2. Chapters are important for the career of students and young professionals
- 3. When chapters cooperate every one wins
- 4. Chapters can significantly contribute to multidisciplinary topics covering several IEEE societies
- 5. Importance of multi-disciplinary projects for IEEE chapters



Chapters: the strong vital heartbeat of IEEE



IEEE heartbeat depends on healthy active chapters and many volunteers



Lessons learned from Ignite presentation

Multidisciplinary is appreciated

Include in 10 AESS TP programs or new TP (e.g. Conasense)

Note: Some TP's are more active than others

Make an activity a process, not an event (See IEEE report "Implications of the Changing Research Enterprise", January 2014)

Services and benefits that attract members are recognized



Proposals for next Chapters Summits

- 1. One year before Chapters Summit, BoG should approve:
 Goals and objective(s) of the Summit
 Organizing Committee
 Theme(s) important for IEEE, AESS in particular
 Budget overview
 Costs covered by AESS
 Costs covered by AESS chapters and/or sections
 Costs which need funding via sponsoring
 Brochure
- 2. Half to one year before Chapters Summit, Organizing
 Committee initiates
 Interesting program for AESS Chapters Summit
 Sponsoring for rooms, luncheons, diners, reception, other social events



Proposals for next Chapters Summits

- 3. Examples of AESS offer to sponsor
 Speaker on visionary topic important for AESS at
 luncheon, diner or reception
 Advertising about the sponsoring via AESS media
- 4. One year before the next IEEE SC
 Include Chapters Summit and Strengthening Chapters
 Heart beat in IEEE AESS Strategic Plan 2014-2016
 (Conferences, Sponsoring, Chapters)

