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IEEE SE MN2020-Q3

## Editorial

We are back to the goals and effective implementation of the board agenda for 2020 irrespective of the enormous challenges we experienced in the past months. IEEE Sweden section remains resolute to continue to make impact for the 2020 fiscal year. The non-physical appearances in conferences and meetings will remain in force but we encourage virtual meetings which we can further explore and utilize in full. I am a believer that despite

the challenges we can turn the pandemic nightmare into making IEEE Sweden a strong avenue of increasing our membership in all chapters. IEEE tools online remain available for efficient, intellectual, industrious and informed members. The board is aware that many of you are contributing significantly to the fight against this virus through direct engagement and research. In order to appreciate your input and recognize you for this amazingly important task, we ask you to share

what you and your fellow researchers, technologists, engineers and scientists are doing, using the newsletter. We shall continue to deliver as entrusted the gains of membership to members of IEEE Sweden Section. This Newsletter is subject to nonstop improvements and aims at sharing information with IEEE members. Hence, we kindly ask for contributions, feedback and involvement from our readers. Please submit to the Newsletter Editor, Dr. Celestine Iwendi [celestine.iwendi@ieee.org](mailto:celestine.iwendi@ieee.org)

## A message from the Sweden Section Chair

Dear IEEE Member,

I hope you and your loved ones are healthy and doing fine in these tough times with the pandemic.

While we are still challenged by the growing number of cases around the world, I am truly impressed at the way many of us have embraced the new life. Be it work from home or running a full-fledged conference over the web; we could have never been more reliant on technology and specially on the internet, than now; which was invented just a few decades ago.

Within Sweden section, we have been hosting several large-scale events online that were rather planned to be happening in person. The R8 Students and Young Professionals Congress to be held in Gothenburg is one of them. The event was converted into a virtual version by our YP team and executed fantastically. The chapter chairs workshop was held virtually on 1<sup>st</sup> October. The ISCOMI 2020 to be held in Stockholm is now happening over the web too. Besides the R8 meetings are all being held online.

As we go forward and the year is soon about to end, it is (unfortunately) unlikely

that we will have physical meetings/events soon. The Section will have elections for 2021 soon and if you are interested in being a part of the EXCOM, please reach out to us.

Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year in advance.



**Samarth Deo**  
Chair IEEE Sweden Section

## The IEEE Region 8 vSYP 2020



*Screenshot from day 1 featuring Region 8 Director Magdalena Salazar Palma, Congress Chair Gerard Duff, and IEEE Sweden Section Chair Samarth Deo*

It is challenging to be an IEEE volunteer in the middle of a pandemic, the normal process of organizing events, going out and meeting engineers and promoting the benefits of IEEE goes out the window, so there needs to be a creative solution. The solution for the IEEE Region 8 Student Activities Committee, Region 8 Young Professionals, and Region 8 Women In Engineering came in the form of a virtual event, and the young engineers of IEEE Sweden Section hosted the opening day.

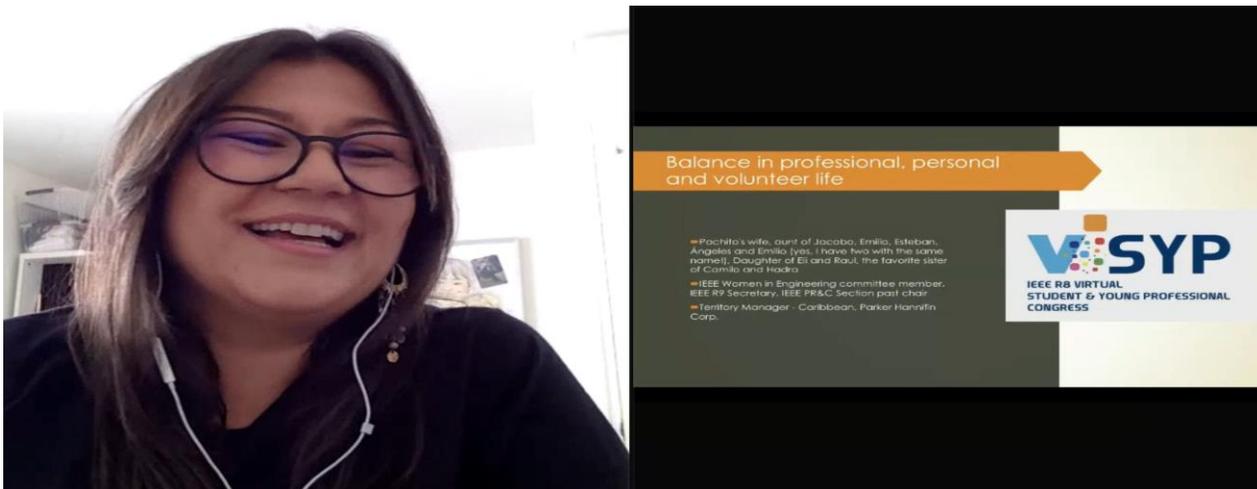


**The Region 8 Director Elect Debate was part of the congress**

The IEEE R8 Virtual Student and Young Professional Congress took place between the 14th and 26th of September. Every day was hosted by a different Section from Region 8, with local content presented online from across our region. The event attracted close to a thousand participants who tuned in every day to see over 100 speakers during a two week span. The speakers included IEEE representatives including President-Elect Susan “Kathy” Land, numerous Society Presidents, and representatives from industry featuring speakers from Mozilla and NASA.

The Congress content followed the usual format, a mix of talks aimed at young engineers by academic and industry experts, with an emphasis on social networking aspects. The event was hosted on a platform called “crowdcast” and the links to the replays are available on the congress website here <https://www.r8syp.com/vsyp-program> or alternatively the R8SYP youtube channel.

Today's environment means that no company in the world can guarantee job safety, but the congress endeavoured to show that IEEE will continue to provide the networking and learning opportunities that guarantee career safety.



*Screenshot featuring 2021 WIE Global Chair Jenifer Castillo Rodriguez*

## IEEE's response to COVID19

IEEE has made the following resources available to help in the fight against COVID-19:

- Datasets related to COVID-19 freely available on IEEE DataPort - <https://iee-dataport.org/>
- About 500 articles in Xplore related to COVID-19 are being offered to the worldwide scientific community for free - <https://spectrum.ieee.org/the-institute/ieee-news/covid19-related-research-and-technologies-free-to-access-in-ieee-xplore>
- EMBS is fast tracking review and publication of COVID-19 related research, data and analysis and then making it available open access.
- EA is running a series of webinars to help educators and parents learn about and use IEEE educational resources.
- Spectrum is sharing forward trustworthy information via its COVID-19 News & Resource page: [https://spectrum.ieee.org/the-institute/ieee-covid19-resources?\\_ga=2.226163610.1671898850.1585514281-179515004.1525031329](https://spectrum.ieee.org/the-institute/ieee-covid19-resources?_ga=2.226163610.1671898850.1585514281-179515004.1525031329)

## Chapters Summary Activities

### The Young Professionals (YPS) Leadership Conference in Bangladesh

One of the advantages of the increasing number of events moving to an online format is that the removal of travel costs and time opens up events to attendees that otherwise might not have been able to attend. One such event was the recent Young Professionals Meetup discussing Leadership in Challenging Times attended by YP Sweden. 28 countries from 5 continents were represented at the event, discussing the approaches taken by IEEE volunteers from different parts of the globe to engage with the members of their sections during the pandemic. Alongside the talks from different sections, COVID 19 initiatives and planning experts, and the MD Chair of Region 10, was a very active chat area with attendees openly discussing schemes to enhance cooperation between Young Professionals, Students, and the various Societies of each Section. IEEE Sweden Section won praise for its tactic of inviting Student and YP Chairs to Section Board meetings which helps stimulate cooperation between young and senior members, and provides advice and training to young members learning how to host events successfully. Region 8 was represented at the event by talks from Nigeria, Turkey, and Denmark, and it was fascinating listening to different stories presented by Sections from other regions from Ottawa to India. Despite some small technical issues, expected when hosting Sections from all across the globe, the event was a success and showcased some of the advantages of hosting purely online events.

### Membership statistics in Sweden for Year 2020

We have about 1800 active members in Sweden in mid-June, which is a quite good number in this period when we see membership number drops globally during the pandemic of COVID-19. Among these, we have 53 IEEE Fellows (including 18 Life Fellows), 374 Senior Members (including 43 Life Seniors), and about 900 professional Members (including 54 Life Members). We encourage more people to join the IEEE community and we are organizing more online activities (such as the Industry workshop) during this pandemic time.

### Photonic Chapter Activities until Q3-2020

#### 1 Chapter Board Activities

So far, the IEEE PS Sweden Chapter Board had five (5) regular board meetings by teleconference. The Chapter Chair participated in the IEEE Sweden Chapter Chairs Workshop on 1-Oct-2020.

#### 2 Chapter Activities

Due to the COVID-19 situation a number of planned activities had to be postponed:

- (1) **Compound Semiconductor Week** (CSW-2021) will now be held at The Brewery with waterfront location in central Stockholm, Sweden, May 9–13, 2021 [\[more info\]](#). As a part of CSW-2020 Prof. Qin Wang (KTH/RISE) is organizing an IEEE-PS Sweden Chapter sponsored **Women-in-STEM symposium** with a number of invited international speakers [\[more info\]](#).
- (2) **Optics and Photonics in Sweden** (OPS-2021) is organized by PhotonicSweden and SOS. The event is co-organized with Umeå University and is now planned for Oct-2021. Since 2016 IEEE-PS Sweden Chapter is sponsoring the Best Poster Awards at OPS.

- (3) Last year IEEE PS-Sweden Chapter and IEEE WIE Affinity Group Sweden sponsored an “**OptoPub**” in Stockholm – an event that was co-organized with Photonic Sweden. Another OptoPub was planned for this year, but due to the COVID-19 situation it is postponed to next year.

However, there are a few upcoming activities at the end of this year:

- (1) “**Sensors at Antarctica**” is a lunch seminar at KTH Space Center sponsored by IEEE-PS-Sweden and organized by Prof. Qin Wang (KTH/RISE/IEEE) and Rickard Brunskog (KTH). The lecture will be given by Garbor Gereb, a research scientist working at Research Institutes of Sweden AB (RISE). During about three months every summer in recent years Garbor has been working at the British Antarctic Survey focusing on the investigation of sensors in Antarctica for different applications. In this lecture Garbor will present one of his research topics on sensors for space weather observation/analysis at Antarctica. Before the lecture Prof. Qin Wang will give a short introduction informing the students about IEEE-PS and RISE. Owing to the COVID-19 restrictions, the lecture will be held in a hybrid manner by combining online presentation by Zoom and presentation onsite in a lecturer hall at KTH main campus. The number of participants is limited to 50 people, but the lecture hall is large enough to ensure a social distance of 1.5 m between the participants. Although the lecture is mainly for the students at the KTH Space Center, all members of IEEE-PS-Sweden are welcome to attend. The event is planned to week 45 (starting 2-Nov). An invitation to the event will be distributed separately.
- (2) “**Metamaterials for Photonics**” is a webinar organized by IEEE-PS Sweden Chapter. The speakers are Prof. Philippe Tassin (Chalmers) discussing concepts and applications to ultrathin lenses and Prof. Qin Wang (KTH/RISE) discussing metamaterials for IR detection/sensing applications. The event is planned to Nov-2020 and an invitation will be distributed separately.

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#### PhD Thesis Award 2019/2020

- The IEEE PS-Sweden **2019 Best PhD Thesis Award** in Optics/Photonics was closed for nominations on 31-Oct-2019. Five nominations have been received (1 from LiTH, 3 from KTH, and 1 from CTH). Unfortunately, due to the COVID-19 situation the review has been severely delayed. Finally, the Award has been granted to **Dr. Lars Lundberg** (Chalmers) for his thesis on “*Power Consumption and Joint Signal Processing in Fiber-Optical Communication*”. The 2019 award amounts 5,000 SEK and a certificate. The chair of the PhD Thesis Award Committee was **Prof. Philippe Tassin**, Chalmers.
- The IEEE PS-Sweden **2020 Best PhD Thesis Award** in Optics/Photonics is now open for nominations. Nominees must have obtained their PhD degree from a Swedish university between 1-Sept-2019 and 31-Aug-2020. This requires that the nominee has successfully defended his/her thesis during this period and has fulfilled all requirements to obtain the PhD degree. The 2020 award consists of 5,000 SEK and a certificate. Nominations must be received by the chair of the PhD Thesis Award Committee Prof. Philippe Tassin, Chalmers, by 30-Nov-2020 [[link to contact info](#)].



## IEEE Chalmers Student Branch Call for Positions

*Shoaib Inamdar is the new appointed chair of IEEE Chalmers Student Branch. He is a PhD student in the Electrical Power Division of Chalmers.*

*Now, the student branch along with IEEE Young Professionals and IEEE Sweden Section is looking forward to fulfilling different positions within the board at Chalmers. Soon the board will have the Annual General Meeting where the call for positions will be further discussed.*

*To know more details about the positions and to register your interest follow the form link [here](#).*

## The Signal Processing Sweden Chapter

The Signal Processing Sweden chapter has shown significant membership growth three years in a row now. As a result, the chapter has been awarded the 'Membership Growth Reward' in the form of additional chapter funds each year. Specifically, in the last two years, the chapter recruited a large number of new members and reached the maximum amount of funds possible namely 500 to be spent on chapter activities"

## Sites For Success

IEEEXplore: <http://ieeexplore.ieee.org>

IEEE Resumelab [http://www.ieee.org/membership\\_services/membership/resumelab](http://www.ieee.org/membership_services/membership/resumelab)

IEEE Job Site <https://jobs.ieee.org>

IEEE Student scholarships, grants and fellowships:

<https://www.ieee.org/membership/students/scholarships-grants-and-fellowships.html>

IEEE Membership

<https://www.ieee.org/membership/index.html>

IEEE Women in Engineering

<https://www.facebook.com/ieewomeninengineering>

IEEE University Partnership Program:

<https://www.facebook.com/ieee.upp>

IEEE Member and Geographic Activities Operations Manual

<https://mga.ieee.org/board-committees/operations-manual>