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Editorial

The activities of IEEE Sweden section for 2020 has commenced irrespective of the challenges created by Coronavirus epidemic. This is a trying time for physical appearances in conferences, meetings and virtually all programs. We are encouraged to use the online facilities provided by IEEE to participate in chapters activities. I see the lockdown as a blessing we can convert to increase our membership in all sectors. IEEE tools online are readily

made available to us to remain efficient, industrious and marketable. And people will key into low rate provided by IEEE platform. According to Sarah J. Maas, who said about reading, "No. I can survive well enough on my own—if given the proper reading material". Therefore, we must remain resolute to maintain excellence and integrity in our engineering practice and society participation for this 2020. We shall continue to deliver as entrusted the benefits of

membership to members of IEEE Sweden Section. The old and new board remains grateful to committed members. Our efforts to help with your career and personal development are paramount this 2020. 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

A message from the Sweden Section Chair

Dear IEEE Member,

I hope you and your loved ones are safe and healthy in these challenging times. The global COVID-19 pandemic has not only pushed us all into uncharted territory but also challenged our scientific and local communities in many ways. It is very important that we show patience to fight this together now.

Keeping the above in mind, we have had to postpone a few events indefinitely while moving some online. The Sweden Section Annual General Meeting for the fiscal year

also hosted online. (More on the AGM on page 2.) The IEEE R8 meeting to be held in Warsaw in March was held online too.

Meanwhile, the IEEE R8 SYP 2020 that was supposed to happen in Gothenburg in August has been postponed indefinitely, with the hope that it returns to Sweden when times are better. I want to commend the Sweden Section Young Professionals for the hard work they have put in towards the SYP.

While the future is very uncertain, we hope to be continuing our activities (online for now and

physically later). Details on some of our past and future events later in this newsletter. During this time, we ask you for your cooperation and support.

As we go forward in this challenging year, I wish you a safe spring and a beautiful summer.



Samarth Deo
Chair IEEE Sweden Section

IEEE Sweden Section AGM for FY 2019

The annual general meeting of IEEE Sweden Section was held online on the 23rd March 2020, with usual activities and rendering of report of the past year. The new board for 2020-2021 was also elected. Some difficulties/challenges slowed down the election process this year, including that Igor, one of the electoral members, passed away during the period. Therefore, the electoral board could not digitalize the process as planned; hopefully, it will be digitalized from next year.

A proposal was made with the information gathered and the following were elected and approved by all 21 participants with Björn Sonerud leaving the board.

- Samarth Deo: Chairman
- Andrei Gurtov: Vice Chair
- Nasim Farahini : Secretary
- Christopher Silfvenius: Treasurer
- Viacheslav Izosimov: Industrial Relations Officer
- Prof Qinghua : membership development officer
- Dr. Celestine: information officer and newsletter
- Mats Edvinsson: Immediate past Chair
- Adjunct to the board:
 - Gerard Duff: IEEE Sweden Section YP Chair
 - Elena Vasileva: IEEE Sweden Section WIE AG Chair

The Section board thanks Bjorn Sonerud for all his contributions to the IEEE Sweden Section executive committee in the past years. We wish him all the best for his future endeavors while he continues to support our activities.



As a tradition, the AGM ended with a distinguished lecture. Our new IEEE Fellow **Stefan Parkvall**, a Senior Expert at Ericsson Research working on future radio access, delivered a talk on “5G” technology. The talk was very interesting, and it was followed by several questions from the attendees.

Stefan Parkvall joined Ericsson in 1999 and is a Senior Expert working with future radio access. He is one of the key persons in the development of HSPA, LTE and NR radio access and has been deeply involved in 3GPP standardization for many years. Dr Parkvall is a fellow of the IEEE and is co-author of several popular books such as “4G – LTE/LTE-Advanced for Mobile Broadband” and “5G NR – The Next Generation Wireless Access”. Dr. Parkvall has more than 1500 patents in the area of mobile communication and holds a Ph.D. in electrical engineering from the Royal Institute of Technology (KTH) in Stockholm, Sweden.

NOTE: All formal documents for the AGM including the annual report, treasures report, AGM protocol and the minutes of the meeting are available on the IEEE Sweden Section website: www.ieee.se

A message from the IEEE CEO in the wake of COVID 19

The following is a message from the IEEE President and CEO to all the IEEE members:

Dear IEEE Member,

As you are aware, last week the World Health Organization officially declared the novel coronavirus COVID-19 a pandemic. This global health crisis is a unique challenge that has impacted many members of the IEEE family. We would like to express our concern and support for all the members of the IEEE community, our staff, our families and all others affected by this outbreak.

Governments around the world are now issuing restrictions on travel, gatherings, and meetings in an effort to limit and slow the spread of the virus. The health and safety of the IEEE community is our first priority and IEEE is supporting these efforts.

We request that all members avoid conducting in-person IEEE activities in areas impacted by the coronavirus threat and instead maximize the use of our online and virtual alternatives. IEEE provides many tools to support our membership with virtual engagement, including our online collaboration space IEEE Collabratec.

Following the advice of local authorities, most upcoming IEEE conferences and meetings have already been postponed or replaced with virtual meetings.

IEEE publications continue to accept submissions and publish impactful cutting-edge research. Our online publications remain available to researchers and students around the world.

IEEE standards development also continues, using online collaboration to replace in-person working groups.

IEEE educational activities continue to offer online instruction and IEEE's pre-university educational resources may be of assistance to families of students whose classroom activities have been disrupted.

All IEEE operations are continuing. At many of our global offices, IEEE staff will support IEEE's mission while teleworking from their homes to minimize risk. As of this time, on the advice of local authorities, IEEE offices in China and India remain open.

We know that many of you are directly and indirectly engaged in the fight against this disease: supporting biomedical research and applications, supporting data analysis and modeling, maintaining critical communications and power infrastructure, and caring for each other. We are grateful for your work.

We extend our heartfelt thanks and appreciation to all of our IEEE members for your understanding. These are difficult times, but we will get through them by working together. Thank you for your support of our shared mission to advance technology for humanity.

Please stay safe and well.

Toshio Fukuda, 2020 IEEE President and CEO

Stephen Welby, IEEE Executive Director

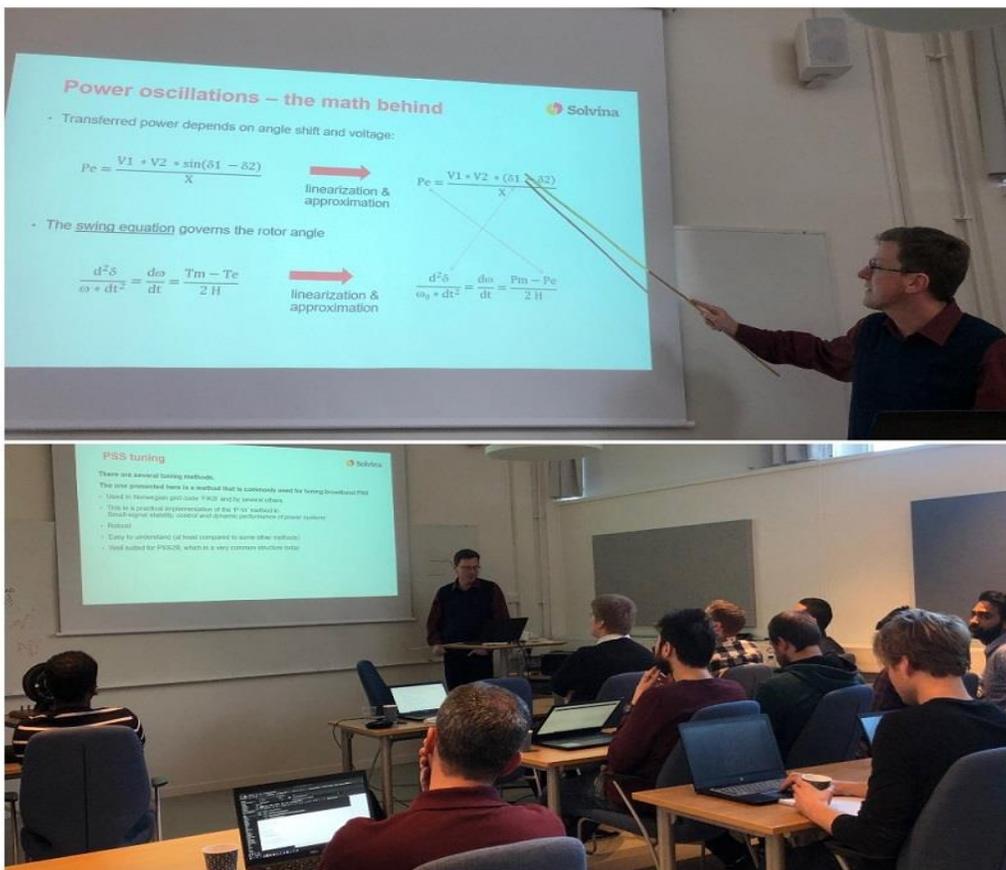
IEEE's response to COVID19

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

Chapters Summary Activities

IEEE Sweden PE/PEL Chapter



The Joint PE/PEL Chapter arranged a seminar on the topic “Power System Stabilizer: from theory to field tests,” held at Chalmers on February 19th. The seminar was given by Bengt Johansson, Power System Specialist from Solvina specialized in power system dynamics: frequency control, island operation of power plants, excitation systems and power system stabilizers.

After a general introduction on power oscillations in power system, highlighting their causes, effects, and possible mitigation methods, the lecturer went on to focus on the implementation of power system stabilizers (PSS) for

damping power oscillations. Bengt explained different types of PSS and discussed typical methods to tune a PSS. Finally, field tests on PSS from power plants were presented.

The lecture sparked quite some interest and many questions from the audience: 22 participants in total, of which 13 IEEE members.

SSC/CAS and IEEE Young Professionals- Linköping Outreach

Just before students broke for the winter holidays, IEEE Sweden organized a pizza lunch seminar for Linköping University. The event was keenly attended by about 30 participants who were treated to talks from IEEE during their lunch hour.

The event was kicked off by IEEE Sweden Section Vice-chair Prof. Andrei Gurtoev, who gave a background on IEEE, the Swedish Section, and some of the benefits of being an IEEE member.

IEEE Senior member and SSC/CAS vice-chair Ted Johansson then gave a fascinating lecture on energy efficiency techniques in wireless circuits. The event was concluded by IEEE Young Professionals who gave a short talk based on the advantages available to student members of IEEE.

IEEE supplied the pizza and the talks, while the students provided the questions and humor and we hope that this can lead to more student based events in Linköping in the future.

IEEE Photonics Society (PS) Sweden Chapter

IEEE PS Sweden Chapter Board had six regular board meetings by teleconference. The Chair had also a meeting with representatives from PhotonicSweden and the Swedish Optical Society (SOS); these coordination meetings are typically scheduled once a quarter. On 3-Sept IEEE Sweden Section organized the Chapter Chairs Workshop where Arne Alping was representing the IEEE PS Sweden Chapter. The following activities were sponsored by the Chapter for 2019.

- **IEEE PS-Sweden** and the IEEE Women in Engineering (WIE) Sweden affinity group were co-sponsoring part of the [Workshop on Information Optics](#) (WIO-2019). Two of IEEE PS-Sweden Board members were part of the Organizing Committee: Dr. Elena Vasileva (KTH) and Dr. Qin Wang (RISE) [*see last Newsletter for details of the event*]. The event received in total 4 000 SEK to cover a coffee break for the attendees at the event.

- **IEEE PS-Sweden** and the IEEE WIE-Sweden were co-sponsoring an [OptoPub](#) in Stockholm (on 26-Sept) organized by Photonic Sweden and the Swedish Optical Society (SOS). The local hosts were Lennart BM Svensson (PhotonicSweden) & Dr. Elena Vasileva (IEEE PS-Sweden & IEEE WIE-Sweden) [*see last Newsletter for details of the event*]. The event received in total 3 600 SEK to cover refreshment for the attendees at the event.

- **IEEE PS-Sweden** was sponsoring a [Women-in-STEM](#) (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) symposium on "[Women in Innovation and Sustainability](#)" as a special event (on 28-Oct) during NMDC-2019. The event was organized by Dr. Qin Wang (RISE & IEEE PS-Sweden) and Magnus Svensson (Vinnova Smart Electronics System program). The event received 25 000 SEK from an IEEE Photonics Society Chapter Grant.

IEEE Region 8 Students and Young Professionals Congress- postponed

The Region 8 Students and Young Professionals Congress is a congress for every student and young professional engineer in the entire region 8. It happens once every two years and is based on bringing together young representatives from every country in the EMEA region. The event prides itself on building bridges, sharing experiences, and creating a network of young engineers from across the region. Given the main goals of the congress we have taken the difficult decision of postponing the event.

The congress is one of the most important young engineering events in Region 8. It is even starting to gain a wider notoriety. Throughout the planning of the event we have been introduced to directors and director-elects from other regions interested in attending the event in Gothenburg to judge if they could host similar events in their respective regions. Due to the prestigiousness of the event we have waited if possible before deciding to postpone. It has not been a happy decision, but it has been an easy decision. The safety and wellbeing of the attendees and their families and friends are the most important factors.

Given the restrictions within the world today, there are just too many variables working against us at this time to deliver the event. We are actively looking at the alternatives and are hopeful of hosting the event in July/August 2021.

I would like to take this time to thank all our members and volunteers who have assisted and helped us throughout the organization process to date and wish everyone a safe Valborg. **By: Gerard Duff, YP Chair**

Membership statistics in Sweden for Year 2020

We have about 1700 active members in Sweden in mid-April, 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.

Upcoming Events in the section

1. **CV Workshop Webex featuring Alberto Lorente Leal from Spotify**
Spring 2020 Coming soon
2. **Women-in STEM event**
18th May, 14.00 – 20.00

Obituary



At the beginning of this year, we heard a sad news that long-time IEEE member and past chair of IEEE Sweden Section- Igor Gazdik has passed away. Igor served on the executive committee of the section in several capacities including chair, vice-chair, treasurer and secretary. He also served on the Nomination Committee of the section and chair of the SSIT Chapter. Igor had a magnanimous personality. While he was a sharp critique to many a thing, his valuable inputs to several years of operations has led to the section's multifold growth.

Our heart goes out to Igor's family in these times as we thank him for all his contributions and remember him in our thoughts.

May his soul rest in peace.