Vision for the Section Employment Coordinator (EC)

The EC is a person motivated to help local members with career development activities. S/He will participate in Region 3 "train the trainer" and career workshop sessions. With that knowledge, the EC will facilitate local career development meetings, learn about all the career development and employment assistance services and products available from IEEE and IEEE-USA, and help section members take advantage of those services. Some of the functions facilitated could include holding regular local workshops/networking meetings and providing one-on-one help to members in career searches. Enthusiasm about career development activities is a prerequisite.

Section ECs will provide feedback through their areas/councils to the Region 3 coordinator on the employment situation in their respective areas. Working with their section newsletter editors, they will publicize to members employment opportunities in their sections. They will be members of the Region 3 Jobs Board.

An essential element for the Jobs Board will be a feedback mechanism from each area/council to report job opportunities in their areas, serving as "listening posts" to keep current on local employment status.

Many areas have a Business Journal (e.g., Charlotte, Orlando, Jacksonville, Nashville, Tampa) that reports significant hiring plans.

Jobs for engineers over age 50 are scarce because those incumbents are not retiring as soon as expected (owing to dwindling retirement nest egg investments, low interest rates and the end of DB pension plans).

Of course, we should also publicize the IEEE Job Site (careers.ieee.org) as a resource for members.

Member Gary Lynch offered a while back to present, at no cost, to nearby sections his plan and experience in mapping out a job search ["How to Survive a Layoff"]. He is in Ohio. He is a possible webinar presenter, too. Darryl Griffin on staff in the DC office has been in touch with him.

Region 3 maintains licenses to use the information in the Harris Infosource database for identifying hiring contacts. The ECs will be contacting employers to acquaint them with IEEE sections as a source of qualified engineers. Orlando's web-based newsletter has an employment section (including Positions Wanted) and welcomes recruiters to post their job needs. The Fla. West Coast section sells small ads in their paper-and-web-based newsletter.

Some cities have free listings for IEEE events in the newspaper business calendar, which for IEEE sections, should always include the URL for the web site. Business cards for use by the Jobs Board and section EC members could be printed, with the local section URL, to leave with company Human Resource folks during visits to explain the EC function and how we can help the HR people do their job.

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