

To: IEEE R3 ExCom
CC: IEEE R3 Committee
From: Bill Marshall, Chair R3 Section Support Committee (SSC)

Subject: SSC Chair Report for ExCom Meeting, 21-Oct, 2019

BLUF: Since our last ExCom meeting, there have been two SSC calls and two SSC-(Co)hosted events as part of the R3 Fall Webinar series; the SSC shepherded a process to replace Edwin Mastache as YP Cmte chair for the remainder of 2019; Life member coordinator working to support LMAGs.

The SSC hosted its monthly cmte calls on 10-Sep and 8-Oct. Both were very lightly attended. The

At the ExCom meeting on 19-Aug, the SSC requested that 3 monthly events be approved as member-direct webinars, sponsored by R3, on topics of potential interest to members. This was initiated in response to a desire by Grayson Randall to host a webinar in September on starting service projects. Director Vaughan approved the initiative and approved sending email notices directly to members to publicize the series (more on that below).

The September event was hosted by Grayson on 26-Sep. His report is below:

On September 26, 2019... Grayson Randall, Region 3 Projects Coordinator, presented a 1 hour webex on "Projects" which was open to all members of the region. The purpose of this talk was to encourage members to participate in or create a project that engages our members and advances the community. Through examples, Grayson showed several types of projects and discussed ways to engage members, academia, and industry. The issue of project funding was discussed as this is a primary concern of members starting projects.

The project was attended by about 12 people. The presentation slides and a recording of the talk are being placed on the Region 3 website for others to reference.

Comments:

- *The webex session was created and started by the Region 3 secretary. The presentation started on time and was completed on time. No issues with webex.*
- *Questions were held to the end of the session. The primary question asked was about where the presentation could be found so it could be shown to others not in attendance.*
- *Of the approximately 27,000 Region 3 members who received an eNotice announcing this webex, only about 12 responded... And several of those were excom members. I attended an local ENCS excom meeting prior to the talk but after the eNotice, and no one in attendance knew about the talk. So not very many people read the eNotice. I suggest we discuss how to advertise the webex series to reach the most members. A simple eNotice did not seem to be effective. Following are my suggestions:*
 - *Format a 1 page announcement with Graphics, Pictures, and color to look professional*
 - *Send out on all social media channels 3-4 weeks ahead of the event – website, facebook, twitter,*

- eNotice reminder just before the event
- Include in any Region 3 newsletters
- Send announcements to R3 excom and all section chairs for inclusion in any local newsletters or member updates
- Open for other suggestions or discussion
- Information about the upcoming presentations should be posted on the Region 3 website calendar.
- In future notices to the members, the location of previous presentations should be noted.

Respectively submitted,
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 STEM Outreach Using Student-Built Humanoid Robots
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The October event was hosted by Glenn Parker on 17-Oct (during the day) on the benefits and process of professional licensure, which was just this past week. It was originally an IEEE-USA event that R3 co-sponsored. I don't have a complete report from Glenn on it, but his feedback this weekend was:

I think it went well. We had 84 registered but I don't know how many tuned in. I've gotten feedback from a couple of people who said it was really helpful. One has said he wants to start helping with exam development (he's already licensed).

The November event will tentatively be on public speaking. The exact date, time, and topic are still TBD; but they'll need to be set this week or we'll move on to another potential topic.

Edwin Mastache stepped down as YP Cmte chair in an email to me on 26-Aug. I worked with Hasala Dharmawardena from the Piedmont Section to publicize a local YP webinar for his on 24-Sep across R3 by forwarding his notice on to the ExCom and R3 Cmte email lists. He'll report on the event directly, but he did report that he had around 40 participants. In response to Edwin's resignation, I coordinated with Mary Ellen Randall (the SSC mentor) and asked Hasala to step in as interim R3 YP Cmte chair for the rest of 2019. Director Vaughn approved Hasala to serve in a full capacity for the rest of 2019 in an email on 16-Sep. On 4-Oct I sent an email to all 5 of the YPs that the SSC partially sponsored to attend IEEE-USA EVO to submit their nominations to serve as YP Cmte chair in 2020 to Jim Conrad. I assume that process is underway.

I would like to comment on the process for publicizing the webinar series. As Grayson noted, his event was lightly attended, despite an eNotice supposedly going to the full R3 membership. In contrast, Hasala had more than 40 attendees after his notice was sent to the R3 volunteer

base. In response, I followed some suggestions by Hasala to check on the reach of the eNotice for Glenn's October webinar. The query reported that it only went to some 2300 folks. **This needs to be investigated. Who on the R3 ExCom can help with doing that? Is that something the Comm Cmte can assist with?**

Thomas Bellarmine is working to rejuvenate the Life Member Affinity Group (LMAG) in the Huntsville Section and is working with selection section chairs to form new LMAGs in their sections.

Action Items: I am delinquent on two reports due to Dave Green for the calendar review and the "mid-year" update of goals. Both may be OBE by now, but I still need to provide an update on them.

Respectfully,
Bill Marshall