

Status of Region 3 Goals - 5 December 2020

Each [lead for the 2020 Region 3 goals](#) was requested to provide an update which is summarized below. Note that the goals were established prior to the pandemic and subsequent financial downturn and the more recent social unrest.

1. Increase members who are engaged in any aspect of IEEE

The focus of increasing member engagement was intended to be through new events, and through improved communications. While some new events were held, others are still on hold until groups can meet face to face again. We will continue working on these new events in 2021.

Region 3 funding for Section Pandemic Projects was recently approved. It is not known if this resonates with sections yet.

Senior member and Fellow Application Sessions have been held.

2. Ensure quality actionable data is provided to Region OUs

The Director-Elect has been working directly with the Area Chairs, to make sure they have the information and resources they need, and to encourage them to share that information with the Sections in their Area. The SSC continues to address issues as they arise. One issue with eNotices is being worked on by MGA IT. Additionally, the SSC created and provided a very detailed spreadsheet of information on meetings to the Sections. This included Section, Chapter, and Affinity group meetings. Similar to what the SSC provided, the Director has worked with MGA staff to add a new report in vTools that will help with assessing the health of subunits -- this tool will be available in 2021, and will provide information on meetings scheduled, meetings held, and attendee counts. Finally, the Director has initiated a Chapter Self-Assessment survey, similar to the Section Self-Assessment survey. The results of this survey (due back Nov 9) will be used to identify issues that Chapters are facing and to then provide feedback/data/training as needed.

3. Encourage and enable Region OUs to provide more engagement opportunities for their members

The Theme for the year has been "making new connections" -- with one area of this being our push for every Section to hold a new event, something they've never done before. In spite of COVID-19, we are still asking the Sections to do this -- either hold the event, if possible, or plan the event for a later time when face to face meetings are again possible. In June we held a series of webinars (originally intended as part of SoutheastCon) on ideas for these new events and how to implement them. In August, the Sections submitted information about their events or plans for events, and two of the Sections gave presentations at our Region 3 Committee meeting about the events they had held. The Region has organized and held multiple events on "The Broader IEEE" -- giving members insight into higher/different levels of IEEE than those with which they may normally engage. These events were held virtually, but were also set up so

that Sections could participate can count the meeting as a Section meeting. The Region SSC has set up two YouTube channels for the Region where recorded content from these assorted informational and training webinars is being stored.

4. Assist the Sections in focused improvement

Over WebEx training events were hosted from April through November. Some of these were “make-up” events for SoutheastCon, others were pandemic-inspired training such as holding virtual meetings and information about project funding, while other meetings were information events about other IEEE OUs to inform attendees.

A focused (i.e., individualized) email to each section officer set with findings on OU Analytics for their section, which prompted several of them to revise their officer reporting and some to contact SSC Chair about improving their processes.

A series of training sessions to show how to use the tools that help implement some of the processes (such as voting, holding meetings, etc.) was delivered.

The Region 3 approach for storing public information (minutes, reports, etc.) on the Region 3 portion of EWH was affirmed. An [IEEE Region 3 Volunteer Resources channel for videos](#) was established.

5. Strengthen R3 communications capability and usage

Three R3 Newsletters were published this year.

A new [Region 3 Web site](#) separate from the “[governance](#)” website is under development. It looks like it will provide easier access for members to Region information.

Social media presence has been greatly expanded with active participation on the following platforms:

Instagram	https://www.instagram.com/r3ieee/	@r3ieee, 89 Followers, 116 posts
Facebook	https://www.facebook.com/r3ieee/	307 Followers
Facebook Student Site	https://www.facebook.com/IEEEStudentsRegion3/	863 Followers
Twitter	https://twitter.com/r3ieee?lang=en	@r3ieee, 555 Followers, 562 Tweets

A process (*The Member Communications eNotice Initiative*) for creating a monthly mailing with virtual section meetings and Technical Conferences within Region was established.

An eNotice distribution issue related not reaching all intended section members was explored and led to the discovery an anomaly in how the *do not contact* process works.

Video channels [IEEE Region 3 Volunteer Resources](#), [IEEE Region 3 Member Resources](#), [IEEE Region 3 Young Professionals](#) were established.

6. Support SoutheastCon

2020: Supported SoutheastCon 2020 including last-minute conversion to a virtual event for the technical program with many weeks of online webinars for the volunteer portion of the event. It was financially successful and articles from both 2019 and 2020 have been submitted to IEEE XPIore.

2021: The Region worked with the SoutheastCon 2021 Organizing Committee to transform the conference into a virtual conference. Initiated continuity of Technical Program support so as to resolve issues with technical issues identified with SoutheastCon 2020.

2022: Maintain contact with Mobile section and preparing for advertising at 2021

2023: Evaluated locations and selected Orlando, FL. Orlando Section will be the partner.

2024: A hotel agreement for SoutheastCon 2024 in Atlanta was negotiated and executed as part of the resolution to issues related to the conversion of SoutheastCon 2021 to a virtual conference.

Continue to identify and evaluate potential SoutheastCon venues.

Updated and released the SoutheastCon Manual.

7. Ensure Policies and Processes are documented, findable and useable

The Region 3 Bylaws were updated. The Region 3 Operations Manual was maintained as changes occurred and issued noted (such as typos and the need for ensuring Table of Contents bookmarking in PDF files such as the Operations Manual

SoutheastCon Conference Manual was updated.

A new Region 3 Web Site is under development and available for public content. YouTube Channels for R3 public content were established to complement the use of the EWH website for archiving R3 meetings and committee actions.

Migration of Region 3 Awards site to the new IEEE chosen portal with present awards and the new YP award.

The location for file and video sharing where the audience needs to be limited is still under discussion.