IEEE Sweden Section Annual Report, Fiscal Year 2019

Section activities and achievements
The IEEE Sweden Section is known for conducting high quality seminars, workshops and conferences on leading edge technologies. 2019 has been a personification to the above. We continue to make progress and remain an example for the sections in Region 8 and worldwide.

Major Chapter Meetings and Events
The AP chapter held two notable events during the last year, one of them being a workshop on sensing, imaging and machine learning at Lund University. The VT/COM/IT chapter held six technical events, including two distinguished lecture tours, one on Deep Learning in physical layer communication and the other one on Algorithms and formats for adaptive streaming. The EMC chapter held two board meetings including one workshop on electromobility. The PE/PEL chapter held five technical seminars/lectures including one on grid reliability. The ED chapter held thirteen technical events through the year, making them one of our high performing chapters of the section. The C chapter held two technical events, the 14th MOPROD workshop and the 12th international symposium on High Level Parallel Programming and Applications, both in Linkoping. The SSC/CAS chapter collaborated with the Linkoping student branch to hold a kick-off meeting for the dormant student branch of the university. The SIT chapter revitalize during 2018 and co-hosted the Lightning Week Energy Challenge in Stockholm during 2019.

The RA chapter held two tech events including seminars on Motion Planning and Control for Underactuated Mechanical Systems and Multi-Armed Bandits and Distributed Decision Making in Robotics and Human Networks. The Photonics chapter had eleven technical meetings, including a conference on Nanotechnology Material and Devices in Gothenburg.

The SP chapter held their AGM towards the end of the year to elect a new board for 2020. The EPS chapter held two joint events, in collaboration with the chapter in Denmark and Norway.

The Women in Engineering (WIE) Sweden Chapter held two planning events, two technical events, besides supporting the WP (Young Professionals) Affinity Group in many of their events. The Young Professionals Affinity Group hosted the 3rd Nordic Students and Young Professionals Congress in October. The event was hosted on a ship between Stockholm and Helsinki while also spending a day in Helsinki and Stockholm. The event was full of technical talks, industry visits and of course- partying on the cruise. Worth mentioning is that they have also won the bid to host the next IEEE Region 8 Students and Young Professionals Congress in Gothenburg. The event will be taking place in August and attended by the IEEE President and CEO among other dignitaries. More than 400 students and young professionals are expected to join the event from all over Europe, Middle East and Africa; making the largest and one of the most prestigious events of its kind in Region 8.

Board Activities
During 2019 the IEEE Sweden Section Board had 10 regular board meetings over the web, one per month, and a face-to-face meeting at the AGM. For the seventh year in succession, we held a successful Chapter Chairs workshop with the Section, Chapters, WP, WiE and SB, with almost all chapters participating physically in Stockholm or via web; leading to better cooperation, mutual learning and inspiration.

International Activities
The spring edition of R8 meeting was held in Malta and was attended by chair- Samarth Deo and the treasurer- Christofer Silfvenius. The autumn edition took place in Valencia and was attended by the chair too.

The young professionals together with students and women in engineering hosted the 3rd Nordic Students and Young Professionals Congress with over 50 attendees on a boat between Stockholm and Helsinki. Samarth Deo was re-nominated as the Chair of the EPICS-in-IEEE committee for 2020 while Arnold Pears continues to sit on the Education Society board.

Awards and Recognition
Abhay Kumar, Senior Principal Project Lead Engineer at ABB Power Grids, was selected as the recipient of 2019 IEEE PES Uno Lamm HVDC Award for his contributions on the development and application of 800 kV Ultra HVDC technology.

Members
The Section has 1872 members, including associates and affiliates as on 18th December 2019, of which 304 Senior Members and 35 Fellows. The section has been commended by MGA for meeting the retention goals for two successive years – 2018 and 2019.

IEEE Sweden Section Board FY 2019
Samarth Deo, Chair
Andrei Gurtov, Vice-Chair
Christofer Silfvenius, Treasurer
Nasim Farahini, Secretary,
Qinghua Wang, Membership Development
Celestine Iwendi, Newsletter Editor
Viacheslav Izosimov, Board member
Bjorn Sonerud, Board member
Mats Edvinsson, immediate past Chair

Stockholm, March 23, 2020
Samarth Deo
Chair, IEEE Sweden Section