

IEEE Tunisia Section Newsletter

IEEE Tunisia Section

July 2017

2017 Edition, Vol. 1

IEEE Tunisia Section Chair's column

Thanks to the great effort of more than 200 volunteers, the section becomes more and more active. The number of members in the IEEE Tunisia section increased from 200 to more than 2,000 members and more than 50 members were rewarded by the IEEE senior grade. As results, the section becomes the biggest section in Africa, before Egypt, Nigeria, and South Africa.

**Thanks to the efforts of more than 200 volunteers,
Tunisia Section is now the biggest section in Africa!**

IEEE Tunisia section is now working hard to offer our members more local benefits through the signature of several agreements with companies to provide special internships and jobs opportunities to our members. Furthermore, an agreement was signed with *Tunisie*

Telecom to provide FREE calls between members as well as other benefits.

At the international level, we received the support of several IEEE units, and mainly the IEEE Internet Initiative, IEEE Industry Applications Society, IEEE Power & Energy Society, IEEE Region 8, and IEEE SIGHT. In addition, we

thank as well People Centered Internet and ITU for their cooperation.

As always, we encourage you to contact us by email to <tunisia-officers@ieee.org> if you need any

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help. Your remarks and suggestions are very welcome!

*Habib M. KAMOUN, IEEE Tunisia
Section Chair*

Newsletter Editor Message

It was a great pleasure for me to work on the first edition of the 2017 Tunisia Section Newsletter. The challenge was to collect data from the IEEE entities within the Section, and I hope the volunteers will be more responsive for the next issues.

Here, we present major events related to the IEEE Tunisia Section, student branches and chapters

activities. In this issue, we also provide description of one of the many benefits of the IEEE membership, which is *continuing education*. We also highlight the successful participation of the Tunisian team at the WSIS 2017 Forum. Iskander Mansouri, active in many IEEE Tunisian entities is

selected to be this newsletter portrait.

We hope this issue reports well the section activities, and provides enough and clear information for IEEE Tunisian members from different grades and backgrounds.

*Amin ZRIBI, IEEE Tunisia Section
Newsletter Editor*

Section's 2017-2018 ExCom Members

Elected officers

Chair	Vice Chair / Chair-Elect	Secretary	Treasurer
			
Habib M. Kammoun FSS, Univ. Sfax <habib.kammoun@ieee.org>	Adel M. Alimi ENIS, Univ. Sfax <adel.alimi@ieee.org>	Bilel Dekhili Martek Power <bilel.dekhili@ieee.org>	Mohamed Neji ENET'Com, Univ. Sfax <mohamed.neji@ieee.org>

Chapters elected chairs

<i>Aerospace & Electronic Systems</i>	Khouloud Filali	<i>Electronic Design Automation</i>	Chafaa Hamrouni	<i>Engineering in Medicine & Biology</i>	Yassine Aribi
<i>Antennas and Propagation</i>	Ali Gharsallah	<i>Education</i>	Ilhem Kallel	<i>Robotics and Automation</i>	Nizar Rokbani
<i>Circuits and Systems</i>	Hassene Mnif	<i>Power & Energy</i>	Houda Ben Attia Sethom	<i>Signal Processing</i>	Hichem Karray
<i>Communications</i>	Tarek Bejaoui	<i>Industry Applications</i>	Seif El Hajjem	<i>Solid-State Circuits</i>	Brahim Mezghani
<i>Oceanic Engineering</i>	Abdelkrim Elbaati	<i>Computer</i>	Ali Wali	<i>Systems, Man, & Cybernetics</i>	Chokri Ben Amar
<i>Intelligent Transportation Systems</i>	Hela Lajmi	<i>Microwave Theory and Techniques</i>	Noureddine boulejfene	<i>Technology & Engineering Management</i>	Rami Messaoud
<i>Control System</i>	Messaoud Amairi	<i>Computational Intelligence</i>	Mohamed Ben Halima	<i>Vehicular Technology</i>	Farouk Kamoun

Appointed Members

Nominations & Appointments Committee:

- ◆ Chair : Mourad Loulou (ENIS, Univ. Sfax)
- ◆ Mohamed Najeh Lakhroua (ENI Carthage, Univ. Carthage)
- ◆ Olfa Jemai (ISIMG, Univ. Gabes)

Chapter Coordinator:

- ◆ Sana Khalfa (Polytech Monastir)

Conference Coordinator:

- ◆ Mohamed Laaraiedh (ISI, Univ. Tunis / SupCom, Univ. Carthage)

Membership Development Coordinator:

- ◆ Randa Hammami (ENIS, Univ. Sfax)

Student Activities Coordinator:

- ◆ Mehdi Bouguerra (Total Tunisia)

Student Representatives:

- ◆ Islem Cherif (INSAT)
- ◆ Ons Zaidi (ISSAT Sousse)

Technical Activities Coordinator:

- ◆ Mouna Baklouti (ENIS, Univ. Sfax)

Professional Activities Coordinator:

- ◆ Nadhem Bardaa (N-Training)

Educational Activities Coordinator:

- ◆ Raja Fdhila (ISI Mahdia)

Humanitarian Activities Coordinator:

- ◆ Samar Baba (Paris Dauphine, Tunis)

Industry Ambassador:

- ◆ Nihel Ben Youssef (ISI & SupCom)

Awards & Recognition Committee

- ◆ Chair: Hassene Seddik (ENSIT, Univ. Tunis)
- ◆ Tarek Bejaoui (FSB, Univ. Carthage)
- ◆ Boudour Ammar (ENIS, Univ. Sfax)

Newsletter Editor:

- ◆ Amin Zribi (ISET'Com & ENIT)

Section News & Highlights

Section ExCom Meeting, May 2017

made to improve the retention rates. I. Cherif, one of the student representatives provided recommendations on what

students need and seek in IEEE to renew their memberships.

Tunisia Section sub-entities are very active. However, many of these



Section ExCom Meeting, May 2017

The IEEE Tunisia section Executive Committee Meeting (ExCom) is a semi-annual event gathering the Section and the Chapters elected chairs and the appointed members to present their current activities, and their projects. The 4th edition of the ExCom took place at the Royal Kenz Hotel in Sousse El Kantaoui on May 6-7, 2017.

One of the objectives is to check the members' needs to increase the retention rate.

One of the main items discussed during the meeting was how to increase the students' retention rate in IEEE Tunisia Section. R. Hammami, the membership development (MD) coordinator presented the MD report, and emphasized that harder efforts have to be

MD Statistics, July 17

By the end of July 2017, Tunisia Section counts 1762 members as follows:

IEEE Current Grade	Count
Associate Member	42
Graduate Student Member	172
Member	264
Senior Member	54
Student Member	1230

Currently, it includes:

- ◆ 21 technical chapters
- ◆ 2 affinity groups: IEEE YP Tunisia and IEEE WIE Tunisia
- ◆ 26 student branches
- ◆ 14 WIE student affinity groups
- ◆ 43 student chapters

The IEEE Tunisia Section has received a **silver recruitment medal** in recognition of its good work and outstanding achievement for the 2017 membership year.

Congratulations for all the IEEE Tunisia Section members!



activities are not reported to IEEE databases. In this matter, the secretary B. Dekhili provided a talk about *vtools* reporting features.

At the end of the first day, M. Bouguerra, gave a student activities report, and highlighted the progress of the IEEE MESYP 2017 organization.

The second day was devoted to the chapters' reports, after which a talk was given by H. Seddik about the H2020 European Programme. Potential discussions were made about partnerships with H2020 and *Tunisie Telecom*.

The ExCom is always an opportunity to discuss the section priorities, and to enhance the reputation of the IEEE and improve the cognizance of the IEEE brand in the region.

Reported by Amin ZRIBI

IEEE MESYP 2017, 1st International IEEE SYPC in Tunisia

Under the high patronage of IEEE Region 8 and with the great support and participation of the 2017 IEEE President Karen Bartleson, the IEEE INSAT SB (last winner of the 2015 4th MESYP congress) is pleased to organize the 5th IEEE ME-SYP congress in strong collaboration with the IEEE Tunisia section.

The ME-SYP congress is a bi-annual Meeting where more than 200 IEEE

and to create value by implementing new ideas.

The program will include technical, professional, educational, and social



Save the date!

Dates: 1-4 August 2017

Venue: Ramada Plaza Hotel, Gammarth

Website: <http://me-syp.ieee.tn>

students and young professionals, mainly from Middle East and North Africa, gather together to learn, to interact, to collaborate, and to increase effective networking. It will be also an opportunity to network with industry professionals, to enhance soft skills, to boost leadership skills, to participate in competitions, to exchange ideas and culture, experiences and thoughts,

activities. Sessions will be presented by highly qualified international speakers. Furthermore, a competition will be organized between IEEE SBs in order to select the student branch, which will organize the next IEEE ME-SYP Congress in his country.

We are all 26 hard working men and women and for the first time, we are working with 31 Ambassadors from multiple countries! These ambassadors make us motivated even more to deliver the biggest congress in the region! They are our voice in their countries and we can't be more proud of their achievements.

Reported by Skander MANSOURI

Call for contributions October 2017 Newsletter

The next issue of our quarterly *Section Newsletter* is for October 2017. This is a call for contributions with the **hard deadline** of **10 September 2017**. No matter your position, your contribution is very appreciated to show all the achievements of your IEEE entity. Contributing to the newsletter can be done through the form available at: <http://ieee.tn/activities/newsletter/> or simply by sending your reports to amin.zribi.tn@ieee.tn.

Upcoming Conferences in Tunisia

- ◆ **20-22 Oct. 2017, in Gafsa:**
International Conference on Internet of Things, Embedded Systems and Communications (IINTEC)
- ◆ **30 Oct. – 3 Nov. 2017, in Hammamet:** IEEE/ACS 14th International Conference on Computer Systems and Applications (AICCSA)
- ◆ **20-22 March 2018, in Hammamet:** 9th International Renewable Energy Congress (IREC)
- ◆ **28-30 March 2018, in Gammarth:** 4th IEEE Middle East Conference on Biomedical Engineering (MECBME)

Tunisian Student & Young Professional (TSYP) Congress 2016

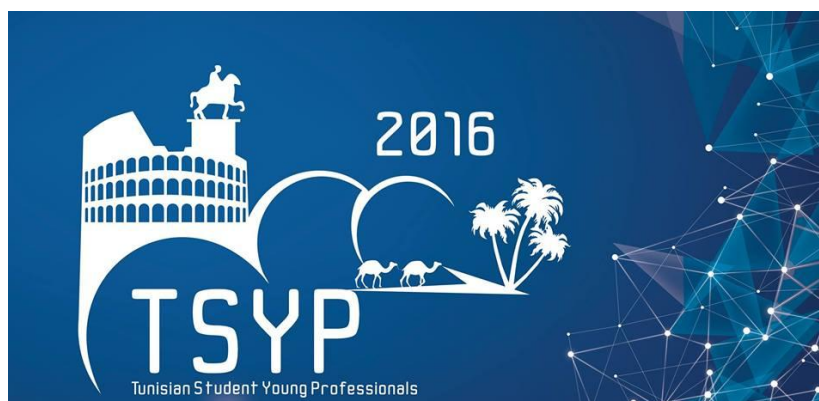
The chair's Report

The 2016 TSYP annual congress was organized by IEEE ULT SB. The 2016 edition was a real success bringing together IEEE members from 19 schools all over Tunisia.

This event was held from 18 to 20 December 2017 at the Hotel Diar La Medina in Hammamet.

More than 530 participants from 19 Tunisian technology schools took part in the 2016 TSYP congress

More than 530 participants took part in this congress. Each SB prepared a poster describing its annual activity, as well as a presentation on the action plan and financial plan for the next Congress. The projects were submitted to the vote of a jury,



composed of the IEEE Tunisia Section ExCom members. High-quality interventions and outstanding guests punctuated the opening ceremony. The speakers

were Sadok Belaid (Dean of ULT), Abdelwahab Ben Ayed (CEO Poulina Holding), Dr. Ahmed Rubaai (Fellow IEEE Howard University), Adel Alimi (President



IEEE Tunisia Section Awards 2016

The 2016 TSYP banquet was a good occasion to hold the IEEE Tunisia Section Awards ceremony. Six awards were delivered, and the recipients are:

Award Name	Winner(s)	
Outstanding Student Branch Award (\$300)	ISSAT Sousse Student Branch	
Outstanding Student Chapter Award (\$300)	Power & Energy Society ENIM Student Chapter	
Outstanding Student WIE Award (\$300)	WIE ISSAT Sousse Student Branch	
IEEE Student Publication Award (\$400)	Naima Chouikhi	Randa Hammami
IEEE Publication Award (\$400)	Prof. Farouk Kamoun	
Outstanding Achievements Award (\$400)	Not Awarded	

Be ready for the 2017 Tunisia Section Awards. IEEE Tunisia Section is offering the same awards for IEEE sub-units and IEEE members in Tunisia. The call for Awards will be released by October 2017.



TSYP 2016 Banquet and awards ceremony

elected IEEE Tunisia Section 2018-2020), Habib Kammoun (current President IEEE Tunisia Section) and Nadhem Bardaa (IEEE R8 Professional Activities Speaker). A gala dinner gathered all participants, guests and conference organizers at the end of the evening. The competing teams prepared their projects during the second day.

Meanwhile, the attendees assisted to a panel of guests including: Dr. Ing Yasmine Souissi (IEEE ULT EMB SBC advisor 2015- 2016), Dr. Bechir Hamdaoui (IEEE Communications Society), José Ignacio Castillo-Velázquez (IEEE Transactions, Springer Health and Technology), Edmundo Tovar Caro (IEEE Education Society distinguished

lecturer), and Mr. Mohamed Ali Chouchane.

The projects selected for the final phase of the competition were INSAT, ENIT and ENIS. On the last day, a debate was opened and each

ENIS SB won the competition and will have the privilege of organizing the 5th IEEE Tunisian Students & Young Professionals Congress (TSYP)

of the 3 finalist teams pleaded for its project. ENIS finally won the competition and will have the privilege of organizing the 5th IEEE Tunisian Students & Young Professionals Congress (TSYP).

Reported by Rafik TOUATI, TSYP 2016 Logistic Manager

Announcement of the WRO-Tunisia 2017



WRO-Tunisia'2017 aims to qualify Tunisian teams to participate in World Olympiad Robot (WRO) in its 14th edition, which will take place in San José (Costa Rica) on 10-12 November 2017. www.wro2017.org

WRO-Tunisia'2017 will be organized on **9th September 2017** in the National Engineering School of Sfax (ENIS). To participate in the WRO 2017 qualifications, teams should register by **25th August 2017 at 23:59 Tunis time**. Registration to the WRO-Tunisia is FREE.

WRO-Tunisia'2017 aims to promote the development of robotics in Tunisia through bringing together primary and secondary and university students as well as robotics experts to exchange ideas and share problem solving strategies pertaining to robotics. More details are in the event website: <http://wro.ieee.tn/>

Affinity Groups Activities and News

She impact Event by WIE ISI SAG

The ISI WIE SAG organized on April 2017 a big event in Sesame University, called *She impact*. The event aims to congratulate the most influential women in their fields. It was also an opportunity to honor 5 of the most influential Tunisians who shared their experiences and their successes so that to inspire the students with their respective expertise. More than 100 persons were present to listen to the Tunisian women leaders who shared their professional experiences, their struggles and their achievements with many students, young professionals and ISI professors.

*Reported by Aya AYARI, IEEE ISI WIE
SAG Chair*

Coffee Talk Event by WIE ENIS SAG

The IEEE WIE ENIS SAG organized a coffee talk on March 18, 2017 in Moving Club Sfax. More than 3 WIE senior members and members from Tunisia were present in the event and more than 12 WIE students members

participated to the rewarding discussion.

The meeting was a good occasion to debate about the challenges facing women in STEM nowadays while sharing ideas, opinions and experiences about this matter. Attendees also talked about the objectives to accomplish and the events to organize by the end of the school year.

*Why not a WIE
Tunisia Annual
Congress? is a
question discussed in
the coffee talk.*

WIE ENIS SAG chair H. Challouf proposed to arrange the first edition of the WIE Tunisia Annual Congress that can be a way to connect student engineers from all over the country.

*Reported by Randa HAMMAMI, IEEE
WIE Chair*

Girl Day 2017: WIE Leadership Camp by WIE ISSAT Sousse SAG

IEEE WIE ISSAT Sousse SAG organized the second edition of the

Girl Day with the topic *WIE Leadership Camp* in 22th February 2017 . The event was a series of training sessions in leadership and personal development. The IEEE WIE Tunisia AG VC participated by presenting the AG and its benefits to the attendees.

*Reported from IEEE WIE Tunisia
Webpage*

WIE Members participation in WIMTA'27

The first 2017 edition of the Workshop on Intelligent Machines: Theory & Applications (WIMTA'27) was in Riadh Palm hotel Sousse, Tunisia during January 13-15, 2017. More than 40 WIE members were present in this workshop. It was an excellent opportunity for the dissemination of latest PhD student research results and for the presentation of technical innovation on all aspects of machine intelligence and linked data. The workshop mainly featured plenary talks, practical sessions, PhD student presentations and exhibition of developed applications. Four awards were announced in the closing.

*Reported by Boudour AMMAR, IEEE
WIE Vice Chair*



Girl Day 2017 : WIE Leadership Camp by WIE ISSAT Sousse

My IEEE Benefit Continuing Education

IEEE membership provides many benefits to all members' categories. Every IEEE Tunisia Section Newsletter issue will emphasize one of the benefits. Today, we will provide more details on how IEEE membership can **help undergraduate members to continue education**, and consequently boost their career potential. IEEE student members have access to numerous continuing education opportunities at discounted rates. Keep growing with educational opportunities available for IEEE members.

IEEE Innovation at Work

Technology is evolving faster than ever, and engineers need a reliable way to develop the latest skills. IEEE

offers continuing education in topics like cyber security, ethical hacking, and the IoT. With content developed by the world's leading experts in these topics, there is no better source for continuing education.

Discover all that IEEE Continuing Education has to offer engineers to continue their professional education in the latest emerging technologies on <http://innovationatwork.ieee.org/>.

Agreements for Internships in Tunisia

IEEE Tunisia Section has concluded two partnerships between IEEE Region 8 and respectively PRIMATEC and CYNAPSYS companies. By signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), each company should offer internships providing mutual benefits:

- ◆ Work experience to young engineers and access to industry.
- ◆ IEEE for its part undertakes to vet applicants from its base of young engineers, and to submit to the companies a selection of capable and personable undergraduates and postgraduates.
- ◆ IEEE Senior members are provided as mentors to junior engineers and interns.
- ◆ The internship offers will be made visible to students widely through the website of the IEEE Region 8 and by trawling by eNotices.

IEEE Tunisia section is a bridge from Companies to IEEE. We strongly encourage local companies to contact us to get all the benefits of IEEE "Action for industry" Initiative.

Nihel Ben Youssef. Industry Ambassador, Tunisia Section.

Linux Training & Certification in Tunisia

IEEE Tunisia section is looking to give its local members the opportunity to participate in Linux training sessions as well as certification sessions from LPI (Linux Professional Institute) with reduced fees and possible payment during several months. Interested IEEE members should fill in the following form: <http://ieee.tn/activities/linux-training-certification/>

IEEE TV

Made possible by the members of IEEE, IEEE.tv is an Internet-based television network. It produces and delivers special-interest programming about technology and engineering for the benefit of IEEE's members. IEEE TV achieved much since its creation by producing award-winning content and live streaming of key IEEE events.

IEEE TV is continuing to take the next steps in delivering engaging technical content and an improved overall video experience.

Take a moment to tune in to where technology comes alive. Visit <https://ieeetv.ieee.org/> !

IEEE Student Travel Grants

IEEE offers a number of student travel grants to assist Student members in attending conferences and presenting papers. Additional student grant opportunities may be found by visiting an IEEE Conference website matching your technical interest. Details about the offered travel grants can be found in http://www.ieee.org/about/awards/student_travel_grants.html.

Students Activities and News

IEEE ENSI SB Activities & Highlights

22 September 2016, IEEE ENSI SB celebrated her 6th year launching ceremony. The first 2016-2017 activity was on October 1st, 2016 with a soft skills workshop in which students simulated interviews and learned how to speak in public. The trainer M. A. Romdhani, a MEA Credit Manager at HR Access Solutions, animated the workshop.

ENSI SB with the IEEEExtreme 10.0 ambassador M. Tayéhi, hold two training sessions, on the 10th and 17th October 2016. The trainer M. Touzi helped young engineers to develop their coding skills in order to participate in the competition. IEEE ENSI SB participated in the competition with 38 teams, which is the highest number of teams in Tunisia.

October 19th, 2016, ENSI SB in cooperation with NetLinks ENSI organized a conference dealing with soft skills development. The event called *Trust yourself, today is yours* was animated by coach H. Guidara. The same day, C. Bouchnek animated an Open Data workshop organized in collaboration with the eGov society, to introduce the concept of open data and the hackathon *Apps4Democracy*.

ENSI SB organized also a training in Android Application Development certified by the coach N. Gouia who is helping the students transform their ideas into reality by making their own android apps. The training began



24h Android training by IEEE ENSI SB

November 30th, 2016 for 24 hours so that everyone masters Android well.

Besides, on holding big events, organizing cultural activities and trainings, ENSI SB is happy to announce the opening of a WIE SAG, PES and IAS student chapters.

*Reported by Mohamed TURKI, IEEE
ENSI SB Chair*

IEEE Grand Tech 2017 with IEEE INSAT SB

IEEE Grand Tech (GT) is a new initiative, consisting of a series of technical events focused on computing technologies, which started back in 2014 by the IEEE Hashemite University Computer Society Chapter from Jordan. And today, this event comes back stronger to Tunisia. INSAT SB was the main host of GT2017.

The main aim of the initiative is to raise awareness about computing technologies in general.

*Reported by Meriam Rebaa, IEEE
INSAT SB VP, IEEE GT Chair*

IEEE ENIT SB Activities & Highlights.

The ENIT SB was very active during the last year, by holding major high-level events. The most important was the 2nd Tunisian Engineering Day (TunED 2k17) held on the 11th February, 2017. This event was organized at the National Engineering School of Tunis (ENIT) to create a large gathering of more than 300 students from different engineering schools along with young professionals and high profile guests. The day started with many enterprises and organizations' stands exhibiting their projects and achievements to



IEEE Grand Tech 2017, IEEE INSAT SB

attendees. The program kept going with various workshops and ended with a robotics competition. It was a closure of a marvelous and memorable day for all the Tunisian Engineers.

Office members of ENIT SB organized also other local events. The first activity aimed at creating an opportunity for the new members of the SB to get to know each other through team building competitions. A Leadership training session was planned outside the area of the school, led by A. Mezghini at Cogite Coworking Space. For increasing technical knowledge, PES SC of ENIT SB organized a visit on the 23rd November 2016 to the photovoltaic power station located at ENIT.

Reported by Roua Oueslati, IEEE ENIT SB General Secretary.

IEEE ISSAT SOUSSE SB in the NASA's Space Apps Challenge

IEEE ISSAT Sousse SB in collaboration with Polytechnic Sousse organized the 2nd edition of NASA Space Apps Sousse on 29-30 April at Hotel Tej Marhaba-Sousse, Tunisia.

The NASA's Space Apps Challenge is an international hackathon that occurs over 48 hours in thousand cities around the world. Teams of scientists, designers, artists, educators, entrepreneurs, developers, students and everyone enthusiastic about space, with the support of mentors focused on solving a particular challenge by addressing innovative solutions to real world issues on Earth and in space.

TUNED 2k17, by IEEE ENIT SB



This year, 305 people joined the challenge and the two winning teams were from high school of Silliana. They will carry on this international challenge by submitting their projects to NASA.

Participants were able to access to a free conferences related to Aerospace and NASA fields of interest. The organizing committee invited also Young Professionals and specialists. In addition, the Youth Science Association Tunisia (AJST) assured an exhibition and a telescopic observation.

If you are interested about the challenge do not hesitate to join us next year and we are sure that will be one of the most awesome experience in your life!

Reported by Meriem AMRI, IEEE ISSAT Sousse SB vice chair

CNUDST, IEEE, and TSP DIFFUSION Training to IEEE ENICarthage SB

The event held at the ENICarthage library, on November 10th, 2016. The training was provided by the Tunisian representative of IEEE: TSP Diffusion. After the presentation of the IEEE: its history, its action in the scientific and technical community, a training was provided on how to efficiently use the Xplore platform of online access to the IEEE documentary database. Finally, talks about "How to publish in



IEEE ISSAT Sousse SB in NASA Space Apps Challenge

IEEE" and "How to manage plagiarism" were made.

*Reported by Najeh LAKHOUA, IEEE
ENICarthage SB Counselor*

IEEE IAS INSAT Activities & Highlights

As always, during the last academic year, the IEEE IAS INSAT was very active. Many remarkable events with technical contents and soft skills development activities were organized.

In April 26th, 2017 they organized an industrial visit to MARQUARDT Tunisia. 17 IEEE INSAT student members participated in this event. During the visit Mrs. Samia-Communication Manager- and Mrs. Leila -Industrial engineer- shared information about the company and the manufacturing process. 33 INSAT SB members made a second visit to Valeo DAV Tunisia in April 12, 2017. The visit was insured by the HR general services coordinator Mr. A. Belhadj. It was an opportunity to acquire a better understanding of the company and its operations. It was both enjoyable and informative.

Aware of the importance of IoT, IAS INSAT organized a workshop on IoT conducted by Pr. F. Kamounk and Dr. N. Chafroud. The workshop was a good opportunity to learn about the new Tunisian challenges in IoT and to exchange ideas on the recent and future advances of the IoT paradigm.

We also organized 8 training sessions about LabVIEW for student members in INSAT. The program was made in collaboration with the National Instruments (NI) program LSA (LabVIEW Student Ambassador). The workshops were



Valeo Visit by IEEE IAS INSAT

conducted by H. Billali, LSA, and senior year student at INSAT. Participants learned the basics of LabVIEW, and how to develop applications with its graphical development environment. Jointly with INSAT WIE Affinity Group, we celebrated the International Women's Day by holding an event: Women in Industry. An event that cherish the women's work and contribution in the industry as engineers and leaders

*Reported by Islem CHERIF, IEEE
IAS INSAT SB Chair*

IEEE IAS student members participation

in IYCE congress, Budapest

Congratulations to IEEE IAS student members for the success of their participation in the IYCE congress in Budapest: A. Bensmida, E. Bourguiba, N. Tlili, N. Fakhfakh, and O. Zaidi.

Attending the 6th IYCE 2017 in Budapest, was the best experience of my life. I got the chance to learn more about Energy from laboratory visits and plenary sessions; I had the honor of representing IEEE Tunisia Section with 4 other Tunisian female participants. I would like to thank the IAS WIE Initiative travel Grant Program for providing me with this



IEEE IAS Students in IYCE
Congress

opportunity. Thanks also goes to IYCE organizers for their outstanding work, to IEEE Tunisia Section and to my family for their support.

Reported from Tunisia Section Website, Testimonial of N. Fakhfakh

IEEE IAS ENIS SC participation in the 2nd R8 Mediterranean SB IAS Chapter Workshop

R-8 Mediterranean SB IAS Chapter Workshop is an event held every 2 years. The 2nd edition was on May 13-14, 2017 in Xanthi, Thrace, Greece.

It was a great opportunity to present the ENIS SC by the past chair who presented IEEE IAS Tunisia chapter. The first day started by IEEE IAS presentations about mission of the IAS Executive Office, the chapter promotion and

membership development. Past and upcoming activities (technical or social events) were also presented. During the second part of the first day, the participants attended a technical lecture presented by academia and industrials. The second day was dedicated to social activities.

Reported by Aymen TMAR, IEEE IAS ENIS, Past Chair

Wided ZAIDI participation in IEEE EEEIC and I&CPS 2017

I just returned from an amazing trip to Milan. I got the chance to attend the IEEE EEEIC and I&CPS 2017. From everything I have learned and all the people I have met, I know that this experience will have a lasting impact on my life for the better. I would like to thank the IEEE IAS and IEEE Tunisia

Section for giving me this chance. I would also like to thank the general chairs and the local organizing committee for making it such a wonderful and successful event.

Reported by Wided ZAIDI

Hejer Kahlaoui participation to the Türkiye PES camp

I was glad to join the 2nd Türkiye PES camp in turkey 2017. It was a great Camp and a good chance to learn more about the power and energy. I took part in the camp to represent my country, my SB and my PES chapter activities.

Many thanks to IEEE Turkey organizing committee for the thoroughly entertaining, enjoyable and inspiring program.

Reported by Hajer KAHLAOUI

SMART projects for STAR Program



Announcement of the 3rd edition of the video contest for Tunisian WIE SAG

It is a great pleasure to announce the 3rd edition of the video contest for WIE SAG organized by WIE Tunisia AG. The 2017 video competition aims to encourage WIE members to participate to the "SMART projects for STAR Program". This program attempts to make WIE members cooperating with young age students. It incites them to create innovative projects from careers in Science, Mathematics & Research for Transformation (SMART).

This competition is eligible to IEEE WIE Tunisia Student Affinity groups. Typically, a team is composed of a team leader (WIE member) and a couple or three participants (WIE student members). The link of the video must be sent to <wie.tn@ieee.org> by the deadline of **December 1st, 2017**. The duration of the video is 3 minutes at most. Essentially English and some Arabic words are allowed in the video. The Award is 70\$.

Tunisian participation in WSIS Forum 2017

What is WSIS Forum 2017

The WSIS Forum builds upon the outcomes of a UN General Assembly that recognized the necessity of holding this Forum on an annual basis and called for a close alignment between WSIS and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals (SDG). In this context, the WSIS Forum serves as a key forum for discussing the role of ICTs as a means of implementation of SDGs.

The WSIS Forum is coordinated by ITU and has been co-organized since 2006 by ITU, UNESCO, UNDP and UNCTAD with the engagement of other United Nations Agencies.

WSIS 2017 Hackathon - Hack for Health

In the context of WSIS 2017, ITU and IEEE in collaboration with *Be*

He@lthy, Be Mobile (ITU-WHO) organized the hackathon – Hack for Health.

The hackathon resulted in the development of innovative digital solutions addressing four challenges relevant to middle-and lower-income population in cities.

Over the course of two days, 42 students (17 female, 25 male) from 16 different nations representing all five United Nations regions competed as teams to develop a technological innovation to address one of four challenges. These challenges addressed the following areas:

- Clean water access
- Urban Environmental Quality
- Managing Non-Communicable Diseases for Healthy Living
- Promoting Health Behaviors

IEEE Excellence in Ethics Award for the Tunisian Team

Three Awards were provided for the most promising solutions. Tunisia, represented by the SIGHT Initiative was recipient of the IEEE Excellence in Ethics Award.

The ITU Acceleration Award awarded two teams. The first was from Norway SAGA: *Bridging the Gap Between Folklore and Fact*. The solution was an interactive kid-friendly media (ebooks, games, cartoons) presented on a website, which incorporates local folklore

Tunisia, represented by the SIGHT Initiative was recipient of the IEEE Excellence in Ethics Award.

with a factual twist to help teach children healthier eating habits. The second was from Poland: *NCD Management for Healthy Living*, which solution provided an application that gathers air pollution data using sensors and feeds it into an algorithm that provides relevant information for government and citizens to incite healthy practices. Citizens participate in change by installing sensors at their homes to provide more accuracy.

The IEEE Excellence in Ethics Award recipient was the Tunisia team with the project *Urban*





Environmental Quality. The solution targets air pollution, which is increasing exponentially and serves as a major contributing factor to a

The WSIS Forum allowed us to shed the light on TAWASOL

wide-variety of global health issues. The proposed solution is a two-sided application that analyzes eating patterns for better health. The mobile patient app acquires

basic medical data, physical activities, allergies, environmental conditions, and more, which gives context to the user's eating behaviors and includes a product scanner for supermarket use to evaluate purchases. The doctor side web service monitors the patient data and makes recommendations for food intake and physical activity for best health. The data will allow for the use machine learning and a classification algorithm to improve the system with less human input.

Tunisian Team Report By Meher Bnoui Secretary-General of IEEE SIGHT Tunisia

The WSIS forum took place in Geneva, Switzerland from June 12th to June 16th. I participated as part of the IEEE Tunisia Special Interest Group on Humanitarian Technologies (SIGHT) Team WSIS Forum Fellows. This year's WSIS Forum witnessed the very first

TAWASOL: Connecting primary schools in Tunisia to create an internet-empowered next generation

Tawasol is a Tunisian project led by IEEE Sight Tunisia chapter and People Centered Internet. The project aims to connect primary schools across the country to the Internet, and train students to use the Internet through ICT skills workshops conducted by IEEE.

As of 2016, 48% of the schools in Tunisia have access to an Internet connection. However, not all of these schools are equipped with labs that can train these children with ICT skills. Three main challenges are identified. First, the lack of access to Internet-enabled devices since most schools in Tunisia do not have computer labs that have Internet enabled devices, which forms the first barrier to students that are trying to use the Internet. Second, the lack of training because ICT training is only introduced at the higher secondary level, at the age of sixteen. Finally, disparities in access are acknowledged since rural areas suffer most from the lack of Internet connectivity, while coastal areas have relatively high rates of home broadband subscribers. Tawasol project aims at providing technical and technological solutions to these challenges.

edition of the WSIS Hackathon co-organized by IEEE and ITU.

The hackathon addressed four challenges. My team and I decided to work on the Urban Environmental Quality challenge. We devised a system called *Purify IT* that monitors and limits air pollution. The solution allows the citizens to be part of the change-making process by installing sensors in their homes and in return draw many benefits such as getting reductions on public transportation fees. While working on the hackathon, I realized that *Purify IT* might actually see the light one day as a SIGHT project. After a sleepless night we pitched the project to the jury and received the 3rd prize.

On June 13th, IEEE SIGHT Tunisia was recognized and awarded as a WSIS Champion for category C4: capacity building for our project TAWASOL receiving a certificate from the ITU Secretary-General, Mr. Houlin Zhao. It was quite an honor to be awarded as WSIS Champion, although TAWASOL is still making its very first steps and is entirely led by students, unlike most other WSIS champions and

winners' projects that are government initiatives.

The WSIS Forum allowed us to shed the light on TAWASOL, and talk more about our work to a lot of people, from students our age to ministers and government officials..

Our work highlights the use of technology in order to solve problems within our communities

Throughout the forum, we have met people whose work goes in parallel to ours, we exchanged knowledge and discussed our strengths and weaknesses and how we can further advance our work. Such events provide the perfect atmosphere for exchanging information in a mutual process of learning.

June 15th, IEEE SIGHT Tunisia was present on an IEEE panel titled *Ethical Dimensions of ICTs*, where Ichrak Mars, participated as a panelist and talked about TAWASOL as far as privacy and security aspects are concerned. We also participated in a World Café,

which was yet another opportunity to network and discuss our project with other WSIS Champions and Winners.

June 16th, the forum was coming to an end. We saved our best performance for the last day where we did a flash session, where everyone walking by could assist and hear about TAWASOL, ask questions and interact with us. We also participated in the Knowledge Café by IEEE, where we had the chance to answer several questions revolving around Building Blocks of Trust in the Digital Age.

The core mission of the WSIS Forum actually falls into the same essence as the IEEE's vision. The IEEE and SIGHT groups are performing a work carried-out on a large scale by UN organizations like ITU in particular. Our work highlights the use of technology in order to solve problems within our communities. This is what we are doing in Tunisia as part of TAWASOL. Manage to identify difficulties in our communities and engage in solving these problems by implementing our engineering skills.



The IEEE day commemorates the anniversary of the 1884 meeting when members of the AIEE, gathered for the first time to share technical ideas. The IEEE Day celebrations can include special events, talks, and discussions. 2017 IEEE Day is on October 3rd.

Don't forget to participate in the contests of the best photos and videos taken at your IEEE Day celebrations.

IEEE Tunisia Section portraits

Skander Mansouri

Q. How did you joined IEEE first?

It all started in 2014, where I was a freshmen in our university searching for clubs to join, I found this small group of people called IEEE INSAT, I was a video editor back then and I was invited to shoot a couple of videos for their upcoming events.

Q. How things have progressed since that moment?

Days by days, I started to get interested in this group and I found out that it's not only a university club. It's a branch of the world largest association of engineers and



members. I had the objective to create a Computer Society Student chapter and we did it in 5 months.

Q. Can you mention one of the major highlights you had with IEEE?

One of the best memories of my first IEEE year is participating in the MESBC in Amman, I was just elected the chair of the branch. During the event, I saw what IEEE is all about; I was having a strong bond with people I just met. We won to organize the Middle East Congress in 2017! That helped us recruit more than 250 members in the next year

Q. What are the challenges you faced as IEEE INSAT SB Chair?

Being the chair of the IEEE INSAT SB was a very tough challenge, managing a team of 10 and 250+ members was truly something I

learned a lot from! Our vision was to enable members to see the benefits of IEEE as a worldwide organization not only as a university club!

Q. Your activities have gone well also beyond the scope of the SB ?

Yes, my 3rd year within IEEE was absolutely the best! It started by co-founding the TAWASOL project under IEEE SIGHT Tunisia and becoming its vice chair. Working to provide connectivity and a good quality STEM education to schools in the region, I had the chance to participate in the Global Connect initiative taking place in Washington DC and visiting the IEEE HQ in New Jersey. Besides SIGHT, I was leading a team of 28 of the organizing committee of the MESYP Congress.

Q. Are you involved in the R8 activities?

Recently, I was appointed to become a member of the R8 YP Subcommittee.

Q. Would you like to add comments or recommendations to IEEE Tunisia Section members?

I have a simple message to everyone interested in IEEE: IEEE is a land of opportunities, it's the place where you will develop your professional skills, your network and even your personal relationships! Take advantage of every moment and go for every opportunity in front of you!

"How can an organization changes your vision in life?" This should be the title of my IEEE story.

scientists. I joined IEEE in 2014 and had the chance to become the communication manager. At that time, we were only 5 members. 3 months later, we recruited 80+ members! It was quite a ride, I acted as an ambassador in several programs where I discovered working with international IEEE

Vote for Tunisian Teams in IEEE Maker Project

IEEE Maker Project competition aims to solve complex problems through technology. Contest categories include accessibility, education, entertainment, health and safety, sustainability, and transportation. Three Tunisian teams submitted projects to the competition. Do not hesitate to vote!

Bionic-Hand,
By Alaa Abdallah

Gaz Volume Corrector,
By M. Bettaib, R. Ben Haj
Hassen, N. Rokbani

**Process Automation education
based on Open Hardware,**
By I. Tourir, S. Sedghiani, N. Rokbani

Chapters News and Highlights

IEEE RAS Tunisia

Chapter News

As always, RAS Tunisia Chapter is trying to focus on technical activities serving its members and the IEEE community in general. Our goal is to remain the most recognized and respected community organizing robotics and Automation in Tunisia and in the world.

The recent chapter activities involved tutorials and technical workshops, robotic-educational activities, and support to the research and development community by helping in technical support for local conferences. Supported by a RAS grant, RAS Open Hardware Workshops were organized in 06 dates and locations (Sousse, Nabeul and Gabes). Hosted by public and private universities, they were free of charges for RAS members. April 1st, 2017 we arranged an open session,



Try Engineering Ben Guerdene by IEEE RAS TN

which was part of the global Arduino days initiative. The chapter is also promoting robotics competitions and challenges through technical and financial support. Such involvement was conducted in World robotics Olympiads Tunisia qualifications 2016 held in Sfax, and NASA Apps Challenge 2017 in Nabeul. IEEE RAS TN is also participating in international events such as IEEE R8 2016 TISP Week. A set of TISP workshops dedicated to educators

were organized. The chapter also arranged several *Try Engineering Sessions* with Robotics as a topic. The "Build your own Robotic Arm" organized in Nabuel, Gabes and recently in Benguerdene by March 2017 is a good example. Finally, it is worth noticing that IEEE RAS Tunisia Chapter is one of the most active chapters in Tunisia. Moreover, it was the recipient of the **2016 Region 8 chapter of the year Award** that was received in Stockholm, March 25, 2017 and the IEEE RAS of the Year Award in Singapore 2017.

Reported by Ikram TWIR, RAS Tunisia Chapter Treasurer & Nizar ROKBANI, RAS Tunisia Chapter Chair.



Best Chapter of the

5th IEEE ComSoc Student Competition

The Competition is open to graduate and undergraduate students, who are members of the IEEE Communications Society. Its purpose is to recognize students or teams of students who demonstrate the capacity to improve the lives of people, through the application of communication technology and the development of projects that meet the human needs of people. The First Prize consists of 2000\$ and a plaque. The deadline for submissions is 15 August.



IEEE Control Systems Chapter in WPP 2017

The 1st workshop on Research Paper Writing, Publishing and Presenting Skills (WPP 2017) took place in Djerba, Tunisia 4-5 March

2017. The event was jointly organized by ISET Djerba (ASET) and IEEE Tunisia Control Systems Chapter.

The main aim of the event was to develop academic writing skills, enhance linguistic competencies, and promote presentation skills. The program included an APTIS test and 4 workshops animated by qualified trainers. 30 postgraduate students attended the event, which was a good indicator of the high level of interest.

*Reported by Messaoud AMAIRI,
Control Systems Chapter Chair*

Call for Sponsorship

We are pleased to invite interested companies working on fields related to IEEE activities to be one of the sponsors for our upcoming newsletters. The sponsorship can cover the printing charges for the next IEEE Tunisia Section Newsletters, and the sponsoring company will benefit from including advertisements in the Newsletter that will reach thousands of leaders, students and engineers operating in the technology fields. If interested please contact the newsletter editor.

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Messaoud AMAIRI, Boudour AMMAR, Meriem AMRI, Aya AYARI, Tarek BEJAOU, Nihel BEN YOUSSEF, Meher BNOUNI, Islem CHERIF, Randa HAMMEMI, Hajer KAHLAOUI, Habib KAMOUN, Najeh LAKHOUE, Mohamed LAARAIEDH, Skander MANSOURI, Roua OUESLATI, Nizar ROKBANI, Meriam REBAA, Hassene SEDDIK, Rafik TOUATI, Aymen TMAR, Mohamed TURKI, Ikram TWIR, Wided ZAIDI, Amin ZRIBI

IEEE Tunisia Section Newsletter Editor Contact



Amin ZRIBI
Institut Supérieur des Etudes Technologiques en
Communications (IsetCom)
Technopole Elghazela, Route de Raoued, km 3.5
Ariana – 2080, Tunisie
Email : amin.zribi.tn@ieee.org, amin.zribi@isetcom.tn