Annual Activity Report of IEICE Singapore Section

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1. Organization
   Assembly of the Section
   - Members of the Section : 12
   - Rep. Office Rep. : Dr. Subramaniam Arulkumaran, NTU (Subramaniam@ntu.edu.sg)
   - Deputy Rep. : Prof. Arokiaswami Alphones, NTU (EAlphones@ntu.edu.sg)

2. Strategy of the Section
   From June 2015, the IEICE Singapore Section initiated mainly to mobilize more new members into IEICE Societies. The section has also encouraged students and industry people to join as a member in the society. The section has also been collaborating with local Universities, Research Institutes and Industries to get its roots into more members. Arranging special Seminars/Talks by Japanese/International experts in Singapore to create a strong worldwide network with the help of IEICE Singapore section.

3. Membership Development Policy
   - Membership drive at all IEICE/IEEE seminars in Singapore
   - Briefing various transactions of IEICE and their topics at each seminar
   - Joint workshop of industrial and academic researchers for a better networking among them
   - A joint international workshop in Singapore sponsored by IEICE

4. Results of Activities during the 2017/2018 Fiscal Year (Apr 2017 ~ Mar 2019)

4.1 Conference/Symposium/Workshop
   IEICE focused in organizing special seminars. The conference/symposium/workshop will be planned in subsequent years provided enough available funds by IEICE.

4.2. IEICE Sponsored Lecture (Including Participant Number)
   It was planned and executed to have two events in Singapore namely (i) Special seminar by Dr Balakrishnan Krishnan, BRIDG, Florida, USA and (ii) Special seminar by Prof. Osamu Oda, Nagoya University, Japan. The IEICE Singapore Section and NTU jointly organized these two activities. For both the activities, there is no financial support was obtained from IEICE, Japan. The participant numbers of both activities are 30.
   i. The first special Seminar on “GaN Technology for Lighting and Power Applications” was held on 7th Sept 2017 at NTU by Dr. Balakrishnan Krishnan.
   ii. The second special seminar on “Novel Epitaxial Growth Methods for Nitride Materials with using Plasma Technology” was held on 26th Feb 2018 at NTU by Prof. Osamu Oda.

   Many delegates from academia (Students, Researchers and Faculty) and industry (Scientists, Engineers and Managers) joined for this special seminar, and it gave a good platform to share their technical experiences with all the researchers in Singapore (The announcement is attached with this report). The due acknowledgement to IEICE was mentioned before his talk and also the IEICE logo was arranged to appear in all the events including publicity materials, Website and the Seminar Flyer.

4.3. The Other Events in Collaboration with IEICE Hqs or Domestic Sections, if Available
   No events were conducted. Need to discuss the opportunities during the International sections meeting.

4.3. Improvement of the Section
   To have more interaction in Singapore section, IEICE may jointly organize conference/symposium with the huge IEEE Singapore section. This will also motivate the IEEE members to join in IEICE, Japan. Another option is to sponsor a full/half day session in any of the high impact conference/symposium held in Singapore.

5. Review and Future Plan
(1) Items in 2018 Fiscal Year Plan Which could not be achieved, and Expected Solution

Though, it was proposed to invite two Scientists/Researchers from Japan to share their experiences/knowledge with research researchers. Unfortunately, this was not materialized due to different reasons (e.g: Speakers are looking for business class travel, simplified reimbursement logistics, not enough funds for hotel stay and limitations in local travel expenses and etc…). Possible solution is to increase the total budget. For the case of simplified logistics, since the Scientists/Researchers are mostly coming from Japan, IEICE can also think of doing the reimbursement logistics (Travel and hotel stay expenses) directly with them (instead of doing the reimbursement process through the section representative). This will reduce the overall time and avoid of currency exchange. This is a proposal to consider IEICE.

(2) Activity Plan in 2019 Fiscal Year

We would like to invite two Eminent Scientists/Researchers from Japan (IOT, Energy Harvesting, Power Electronics, Materials Engineering and Telecommunication) to share their experiences/knowledge with Singapore Researchers provided IEICE increase the budget (including local travel expenses). This can potentially motivate the local researchers to take part of the IEICE Singapore Section’s current and future events. In addition, this will be a seed to have a closer interaction between both parties and/or to initiate the collaborative research between Singapore Universities/Industries and Japan Universities/Industries. Also it is planned to make the IEICE membership drive to recruit new members and give a talk on the IEICE membership benefits, as well.

6. Constructive Opinion / Requests / Proposal

- If there is a possibility, IEICE can think of extending additional membership discount (~30%) to the existing IEEE members those who would like to join as an IEICE member.
- The section can also think of inviting the other country professionals to deliver lectures/course in Singapore with full or partial financial support of IEICE.
- IEICE can also think of providing Student Scholarship/Best Paper Award scheme for IEICE members.
- The section would like to request the IEICE, Japan to allot additional funds to support for refreshments when the IEICE sponsored to have a conference in Singapore.
- Full sponsorship to organize half/full day session in a high impact conference/symposium in Singapore.