Technical Activities and Membership Development: Achieving Synergy

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Challenges from Welcome Session

- How can we do more with less?
  - Grassroots “Chapters”
  - Global “ComSoc”
  - Information and Communications “Community”
  - Industry and academia
  - ComSoc staff

- Why should we do it?
  - Professional growth?
  - Valuable technical and social interchange?

- What are some tangible steps we can take?
  - Chapters work with local industry to exhibit at ComSoc events?

- When should we do these?
  - Next month? Next year? In two years?

- Who will do them?
  - ComSoc Chapter in City-A will do local arrangements, advertising, and sharing in surplus for ComSoc’s Event 200x
Membership Development

Chapters

• **Focus on local community**
  - Exists within IEEE geographic section
  - Invite guest speakers at luncheons, etc.
  - May help with ComSoc *global* or IEEE *regional* conferences held in IEEE section (publicity, registration, etc.)

• **Challenges**
  - Have very limited funding and volunteer time
  - Not always well informed of ComSoc conferences held in section
  - Most chapter participants stay local for ComSoc activities
Technical Activities

Technical Committees

• Focus on *global* community
  – Work thru ~20 Technical Committees
  – Major focus on conferences and publications
  – Meet at GLOBECOM/ICCs and may have limited involvement with chapters

• Challenges
  – Conferences may benefit from stronger local support thru chapters (including joint ones)
  – Recruiting and retaining active TC members
  – Most TC members are currently active globally rather than locally
“Techno-Membership” Activities – Some Ideas (1)

• Chapters may consider...
  – Recommending chapter members for appointment as Distinguished or Expert Lecturers
  – Encouraging chapter members to join global ComSoc TCs – they are on-line and don’t require going to GLOBECOM or ICC
  – Checking conference calendar for ComSoc events where they may offer help (and share in surplus)
  – Other ideas?
“Techno-Membership” Activities – Some Ideas (2)

• Technical Committees may consider...
  – Using chapter email lists and links to chapter home pages to involve chapters in global technical activities
  – Encouraging guest speakers and other chapter activities in TC fields of interest, with recognition of TC by chapters
  – Try to use pool of local colleagues associated with chapters to help with ComSoc (versus other IEEE-sponsored) conferences and publications
  – Other ideas?