

Section 5.19: Women In Engineering (WIE) Committee

1. Objective:

The mission and vision of WIE is to **inspire, engage, encourage, and empower** IEEE women so as to form a vibrant community of IEEE women and men innovating the world of tomorrow.

The WIE at Region 10 aims at

1. **Inspire** young women in high schools to take up engineering and technical studies and career;
2. **Engage** the interests of women in enhancing their technological and professional skills;
3. **Encourage** women to their acquired skills and education for the improvement of the society;
4. **Empower** and foster women in leadership roles and career advancement.

2. Responsibilities

The responsibilities of R10 WIE Committee (WIEC) include:

- **Support the establishment of WIE Affinity Groups - helping identify volunteers and training them.**

This is done by being in constant contact with the Sections and Student Branches and introducing them to the benefits of forming the WIE AG(s) through Congresses, Awareness Program, Get Together, etc. In addition, the procedure for the submission of the petition and improving the memberships through activities should be made familiar to them.

- **Maintain an advisory relationship with the local WIE Affinity Groups**

The WIEC should provide guidance such as, new initiatives or assistance in the procurement of funds for activities that support the objectives of MGA Board. He / She should provide support and guarantee that the WIE Groups in the Region maintain a good level of activity.

- **Act as a liaison between the Region and the WIE Committee**

The WIEC should participate in WIE Committee meetings and report to the Region Director at regional meetings on WIE status and activities. He/She should also introduce new ideas and best practices followed in other regions in Region 10 or vice versa.

- **Inform WIE Committee of local activities that might be of interest to the WIE membership**

The WIEC is the one-point contact for the WIE Committee to be appraised of new groups being formed and the local activities organized by the Section and Student Branch Affinity Groups. Also encouraging the local groups to report about activities in Region 10 for publication in WIE Newsletter and motivating the local members to write articles for the WIE magazine and getting them published. Follow up on the report of any change in the AG officers may be done with the Section Chairs for the Section WIE AGs and the Section WIE Chairs for the SB WIE AGs.

- **Help to Increase the participation of women within IEEE**

By motivating the Affinity Groups in the Region 10 to organize different IEEE activities, especially for women engineers and women engineering students, the WIEC can help increase the women participation in IEEE. By guiding them to improve their technical skills through activities and motivating them to overcome their shyness by giving them responsibilities, women involvement can be increased.

- **Assist in membership grade elevation for women members**

The WIEC may serve as guidance cell for the women IEEE members to be assisted in their membership grade elevation by providing the necessary links and references.

- **Sustain the growth of WIE Affinity Groups and WIE members**

The WIEC is responsible for encouraging the active groups and motivating and guiding the inactive groups and starting new groups under the region. For this local Sections and Student Branches may be used as links and their officers as mentors.

- **Identify new volunteer leaders, talents and ideas**

Volunteers with new ideas can be identified by having constant lookout and these volunteers should be given responsible positions so that their ideas can be put to action. Committees may be formed for the various activities planned and volunteer responsibilities clearly defined.

- **Gather information of status of IEEE women members in the Region and disseminate it.**

WIEC should always look for information on Women IEEE members in the Region and help to provide links and contacts wherever required. This will help in identifying new talents and help in turn to increase the WIE membership in the Region.

- **Report on the progress of WIE in the region and its activities**

WIEC monitors the growth of WIE, collects information on the activities of WIE Affinity Groups and WIE members and reports about them to the Region 10 Excom as well as the newsletter editor for publication.

- **Recognize WIE's outstanding achievements through Region 10 WIE Awards and IEEE Awards nominations**

Region 10 WIE Volunteer Awards and WIE AG of the year Awards have been established to recognize individuals and AGs who have exhibits exemplary and substantive leadership in implementing activities and making distinguish contributions which support the aims of R10 WIE. Excellent WIE candidates should be nominated for IEEE Awards.

3. Activities

The various activities planned by Regional WIE can be done in association with the various AGs across the region to increase participation. Though the range of activities is infinite, based on the originality and the innovativeness of the organizer, resources available and the audience, a list of sample programs are given below:

- **PROGRESS (PROmote Gender Equal Societies) program**
- **Conferences/Workshops**
- **Congress/Forum**
- **STAR (Student-Teacher and Research Engineer/Scientist) outreach program**
- **Professional and Career Development program**
- **Development/outreach program to Rural areas**
- **Industry engagement**

4. Other Matters

Finance: The Regional Coordinator should plan about the events and activities of WIE for the current year in advance and request the funds during the First Excom meeting conducted in January. The disbursement of the funds under the given head should be done after carefully scrutinizing the proposals received in terms of the extent of fulfillment of the MGA objectives, amount of outreach and beneficiaries and the availability of funds.

Reporting: The reporting of activities to the Region and WIE Committee should be done regularly. Timely publication of reports in the Regional Newsletter, Global WIE Newsletter and WIE magazine are the responsibility of the WIE Coordinator. Encouraging WIE members to publish articles in the WIE magazine is another way of increasing the popularity of WIE among IEEE members.

Website and Social Media: The Regional Website/Social Media includes a webpage/a social media page for WIE activities. The activities organized, activities planned, prizes won, awards received, committee members, photos etc. can be posted on the webpage for the benefit of regional WIE members and AGs.