

Innovation Nomination Form – Tom Smith

RESPONSIBILITIES

Executive Supervisor, IEEE XXXX Section
Board of Governor, IEEE XXXX Society XXXX Chapter
International Steering Committee member, XXXX Conference (XXXX Society)
International Steering Committee member, IEEE Symposium on XXXX

MGA GOALS MET

1. Increase membership.
2. Enhance intimate relationship between sections and societies and their chapters.
3. Enhance the membership-related information available to the member and the geographic unit.

HOW GOALS WERE MET

1. The membership fee has long been a critical concern for many members to join IEEE since it is a significant amount as compared with their nominal income. During his term as IEEE XXXX Section Chair in ####-##, Prof. Smith visited the vice President of XXXX and successfully persuaded the XXXX to adopt a new policy for reimbursing membership fees of PI and graduate students in the research grant. For members working in industry, he visited the industry leaders and successfully made some of them to cover full or 50% membership fees for the employees, including Company1, Company2, Company3, etc. This is very helpful for the Section to recruit new and maintain existing members, as evident by a ### increase in membership in his term, even during the worldwide financial tsunami near the end of ####. The action keeps effective up to now and the section members keep increasing by about #% every year, from # on date to # on date and # on date.

2. Prof. Smith has demonstrated insightful vision and charming leadership in navigating different Chapters to jointly organize promotion programs and events. Typical examples are,
- XXXX Program, by Society1, Society2, Society3, and Society4
- Workshop on XXXX, by Society1 and Society2.
- Summer School for XXXX, by Society1 and Society2.
- #### International Workshop on XXXX, by Society1, Society2, and Society3
- #### IEEE XXXX Week by Society1, Society2 and Society3

As a salient example, Prof. Smith initiated the XXXX Program to boost the research momentum in related disciplines while attracting young talents for advanced researches. It has been held three times since #### with overwhelmed appraisal from the involved Chapter Chairs and members. More than # newly enrolled graduate students have enthusiastically participated in this program, thereby effectively promoting the technical advancement and innovation in the related areas. The milestone achievement is also reflected in a recent statistics published by the XXXX Editor-in-Chief Dr. XXXX in month ### issue that xx_country has become the country with most submitted and accepted papers in XXXX.

3. Prof. Smith took innovative ways to improve the visibility of the Section. He fully utilized the limited section budget to encourage chapters to organize technical activities. A subsidy program has been set up to help the chapters, especially those relatively inactive or financially deficient, for hosting technical activities. In total, more than # meeting, workshops, and conferences were sponsored and co-hosted by the Section in ####. The chapters were asked to write articles to the R# Newsletters for the partially sponsored activities. As a result, the XXXX Section has collectively published # articles in R# Newsletters in less than two years, one of the most active sections in R#.

One of Prof. Smith's extraordinary moves is the compilation of Section History book, # pages and currently available on the Section website (in language). It summarized historical documents, section organization, statistics, milestone achievements, awards, and important activities. For this purpose, he has visited previous chairs, collected important documents and events from IEEE and many possible sources. Without his persistence and administrative skill, it will be impossible to have this first edition since the foundation of our Section # years ago.

Prof. Smith likes to share his idea with other sections. He was invited to give a speech entitled "XXXX" to other section chairs in the R# Chairs Meeting at XXXX locatio. He not only shared valuable experiences with other sections but also successfully promoted XXXX Section.

SIGNIFICANT NATURE OF ACHIEVEMENT

Prof. Smith has been in the Board of IEEE XXXX Section for years, which is a large section of about # members. There are nearly # Society Chapters. Most of them are quite active and have their activities, while the Section basically provided logistical support. When elected as the Section Chair, Prof. Smith quickly figured out some beneficial activities which were not and would not be suitably taken care by the chapters. However, he also faced with three major challenges: 1) how to increase the members, 2) what else to do than logistical support in activities with the limited section budgets,, and 3) how to make section more visible to both the members and geologically outside areas.

Prof. Smith took new approaches to face with the above challenges. 1) He persuaded the government to reimburse the membership fee and utilized the government action as leverage for the industry to follow. This successful action to the membership promotion has direct benefits to all the Chapters, thereby quickly earning him the full support from all the Chapter Chairs. 2) He then proposed the idea of Joint-Chapters programs, and utilized the limited section budget as the strategical support. 3) In addition, he encouraged the publications of the Chapter activities in the R# Newsletters through the help of the Section. As a result, the section becomes visible and the chapters are highly promoted. Moreover, he organized the efforts to compose the Section History book for the first time in # years after the section was established. He has very limited part-time assistants, but could accomplish many innovative ideas which are beneficiary to all the members. His dedications and achievements highly deserve the MGA INNOVATION AWARD.

SUGGESTED CITATION

For his actions and impacts to the membership promotion, chapters consolidation, and talents cultivation.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

Prof. Smith served as the XXXX Section Chair from Feb. #### to Jan. ####. During his term, the member size increases by # (+#%), with # more elevated as Fellows (+#%). One Affinity Group (Women in Engineering), two new chapters, and two new student branches were formed. He co-chaired XXXX Conference and initiated many new activities which were briefed by # articles in R# Newsletters and for the first time receipted the #### R# Outstanding Large Section Award and #### MGA Outstanding Large Section Award. With his innovative ideas, charming leadership, and decisive capability, Prof. Smith is the solely key person who makes possible the Section to receive the extraordinary award.