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Report to the IEEE EdSoc BoG
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This is my update of the following initiatives since October, 2015:

- Review Report by the TAB Society Review Committee (SRC) (February 2016)
- DLP plus other distinguished educational activities distinguished
- Collaboration with MERLOT:
  - Discussions to create an IEEE Collabratec community in the education space.
- EAB
- Awards

Review Report by the TAB Society Review Committee (SRC) (February 2016)

One of the eight main areas included in this report, as result of the assessment process held by the SRC was Education throughout the report. The importance of this report is based on my consideration as primary input for the Strategic plan for Educational Activities in the next 5 years. Following there is brief summary about:

Main findings of the SRC:

• The reorganization of its governance structure in 2013 with the creation of the position of Vice President for Educational Activities and Awards, with responsibility for coordinating and overseeing educational products and services and a new committee responsible for the Distinguished Lecturer program and other educational activities.
• The membership of the Society is composed primarily of university faculty members, most of whom hold advanced degrees, with roughly 60% of the membership outside of the United States. As such, the focus of the Society’s educational activities include educational research methods, international educational issues, and accreditation.
• Chapters, more than 70 chapters, approximately 75% of which are located outside the United States, are a major focus of the Society’s educational activities and serve to connect members from multiple universities in an area and provide a forum for locally-relevant educational activities.
• The Distinguished Lecturer program is small, but growing, and is intended to assist chapters in supporting the needs of local members.
• The Society also interacts on some issues with IEEE Educational Activities (EAB/EAD), including having designated positions on key EAB committees.
Recommendations to Society

- The SRC recognizes that the educational activities undertaken by the Society are not typical, given its distinct membership needs. Engaging students who may be interested in academic careers is a distinct opportunity and the Society is encouraged to continue its efforts in this area.
- Further development of web-based educational resources is strongly encouraged, with the goal of meeting the needs of a membership that is geographically diverse.
- The SRC recommends that the Society seek to strengthen its ties with IEEE Educational Activities, particularly in light of the recent EAB reorganization and its resulting efforts to more directly support the educational needs of faculty members and academic departments.
- The SRC recommends that operational planning include the development of specific strategies and measurable metrics for achieving the Society’s goal with respect to educational activities.

Next action: An operational planning for EA with specific strategies and measurable metrics, with inputs of this report as:

- To engage students who may be interested in academic careers.
- To develop web-based educational resources meeting the needs of a membership that is geographically initially in English, but then expanding to Spanish, Chinese, and Portuguese.
- Strengthening its ties with EAB and aligned activities. The operational plan to be developed will incorporate toward this end.

DLP plus other distinguished educational activities distinguished

Following the renewal and updating on the DLP started in the last year with the objective to extend the EdSoc EA offer, not only DL but more distinguished educational services and products:

- a new committee was created, the "Distinguished Lecture and Educational Activities Program Committee" (DLEAPC) inheriting the old responsibilities of the DLP committee and new ones related to the selection and promotion of other distinguished educational services and products.
- A new EdSoc web site has developed, with support of the New initiatives program a web site to support the activities of the new "Distinguished Lecture and Educational Activities Program Committee". It’s pending the process of integration with the new web site of EdSoc, but it is running in a server of my university.

User’s manual for the members of the Committee as well a guide with instructions for the integration have been developed.
In order to begin with the operations of this ad-hoc Committee I did a Call for resources distinguished Educational Resources and Activities of the Education Society. The purpose is to distinguish the best Open Educational Resources (OER) and educational workshops and webinars authored by our members.

Resources and proposals of workshops and webinars selected will be part of a catalog of distinguished educational materials extending to the Distinguished Lecture Program we have. This catalog will be published and promoted through our web site.

Outcomes: As result we have received for this first round:

- 3 proposals of Workshops
• 1 proposal of OER

Outcome about DLP:

In the last months we have supported under DLP an event on teaching methods in software engineering, flipped classrooms, project-based learning held in March 2016 in Calgary, Alberta, Canada at the University of Calgary.
Organizer: Chair of the computer chapter in the southern Alberta section (SAS in the process of opening a new education chapter.
Lecturer: Rob Reilly
On the other hand I have received a new application from the ICACIT 2016”, sponsored by the IEEE Education Society Peruvian Chapter and organized by ICACIT, an accreditation agency created with the IEEE/EAB support.

Next actions:
• DLEAPC will be in charge of their selection following criteria of quality, impact and relevance to our Society.
• Selection of new Distinguished Lecturers
• Selection of distinguished resources and workshops
• Update of experts

Collaboration with MERLOT:

I was talking in the last months with Sorel Reisman, past president of Computer Society and managing director of MERLOT, about how to align efforts to promote OER. As you know one of the priorities I push in our strategic plan, in the Educational Activities line, OER.

OER are becoming increasingly available to instructors on the World Wide Web, but unfortunately they are not as frequently used as proponents might wish by several reasons as lack of information about quality or appropriateness of OERs for diverse environments, or even personal issues such as like lack of trust in their quality, and the perception that they are time consuming to discover and use.
MERLOT is an important international community of educators and students who seek out, utilize, curate, review, and rate the learning materials in its extensive collection. All MERLOT materials, unlike the materials in other learning materials collections, are examined in various ways to ensure quality in the sense that they are useful for the MERLOT community. MERLOT's unique peer review processes are led by an Editor, who oversees a volunteer editorial board of subject matter experts who peer review submitted materials.

Outcomes: Participation in a new Project

A new MERLOT's project has the goal of building two new communities - Computer Science, and Information Systems (IS) – two disciplines that have only recently shown interest in the world of OER. The first community is underway and he invited me to lead the IS community. The way to create this community is creating of Task Force (Editorial Board in-training) whose main purpose is to each contribute a bunch of around 90 OERs (searching in the MERLOT database) that have a Creative Commons license by all the Task Force. An editorial board has similarities and differences to conventional journal editorial boards, and works in MERLOT like Scholarone platform.

EdSoc volunteers have participated in the recruitment the Task Force:

With the purpose to recruit volunteers for this Task Force of reviewers I emailed among our members a call to participate in this project on both communities, CS and IS/IT, receiving the interest of more than 50 volunteers.

Implications with EdSoc:

- This project will provide, in my opinion, a community of interest for our members, in which we will be able to find peer review open resources, stimulating the possibility to create a collection of resources, and reuse them according to our necessities.
- The nature of this project reinforce our strategic plan as an specific action aligned with this plan.
- From this view point I think important to involve EdSoc in the early phases of the project. The first activity that comes to my mind is recruiting volunteers for this Task Force, assuring an adequate profile of members, and geographical coverage.

Outcomes: A proposal of MoU between EdSoc and MERLOT.

Along the last months I have been preparing with Sorel Reisman a draft of MoU between MERLOT and EdSoc with the following objectives:

- Enable MERLOT and the IEEE Education Society to effectively and efficiently serve their constituents by providing joint community activities and promoting the sharing of tools and resources.
- Enable the higher education community to take advantage of high quality open online resources and services through the collaborative initiatives of MERLOT and the IEEE Education Society.
- Increase visibility of MERLOT and the IEEE Education Society with each other’s constituencies.
- Provide opportunities for collaboration among our constituencies.
- Provide increased value to our constituencies.

Funds claimed for this activity as VP EA:
I made two trips to follow up the development of this project and meetings with key persons involved to TALE Conference (December, 2015) and COMPSAC Conference (June, 2016).

Next actions:

- To bring forward the motion to approve the MoU with MERLOT.
- To progress in the project of the creation of communities in CS and IT/IS.

Discussions to create an IEEE Collaboratec community in the education space.

IEEE Collaboratec contacted with us to involve to our Society in the creation of an Education Community on IEEE Collaboratec. The creation of these communities will give opportunity for volunteers to provide support to the community in moderator or content contributor roles.

I joined to two teleconferences and several emails on behalf of EdSoc to talk about that, with the participation also of EAB.

1. We discussed about the possibility of creating education focused committees and not only a broad topic. Early Career Faculty community is ok to proceed.

2. I shared with you, BoG, my opinion asking you feedback that can be summarized in the following: a generic Education community would be too broad. Under a general Education community I think more productive and focused to have specific communities around several education hot topics, updated periodically, in Education.

About the roles of EAB and EdSoc, and following this approach if you think interesting:

- EAB as is in charge "to recommend to the Board of Directors policies on educational matters..." (extracted from its mission) in my opinion should be the main reference to select the portfolio of communities under a generic Education community. Areas covered by the EAB Standing committees could be a good starting point: Global Accreditation Activities, Faculty and Departments, Student Educational Resources, Curricula and Pedagogy,...
- EdSoc can contribute to the proposal of specific committees with strategic topics that can be suggested by officers colleagues of our Society.

Outcome:

- There was an agreement to create a first specific educational community, not still running, around one of the programs of University Resources Comm (from EAB): the Early Career Faculty community with the idea to consider expanding by adding others.
- I have asked to IEEE Collaboratec, being EAB informed, to propose a new educational community according to our strategic educational activities.

Next actions:

- Follow up of the first Educational community in IEEE Collaboratec and proposal of one of them according our interests in coordination with EAB.

EAB
I was attending to the EAB as member this of the Curricula and Pedagogy Committee, as well distinguished members of EdSoc are involved in other Committees as Leonard, Manuel and Hamadou.

Each one of these Committees implements a portfolio of programs and many of them require of the creation of communities in different phases of their implementations, frequently eliciting requirements (through surveys for example) of their products and services or testing the outcomes in which we have, as Society, to participate.

Next actions:

• To promote the participation of EdSoc members in EAB committees.
• To explore the participation of EdSco in the Programs approved of EAB

Awards

See the Edwin C. Jones, Jr. report, Chair, Awards Policy and Procedures Committee Thanks to Ed and all the members of that Comm. Congratulations to the awardees.