

Region 8 Chapter Chairs Meeting at ESSCIRC 2018

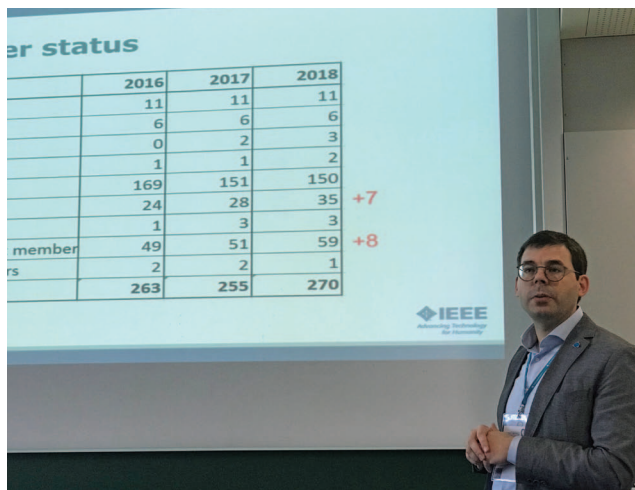
The European IEEE Solid-State Circuits Society (SSCS) Chapter Chairs Meeting was held on 5 September 2018 at the European Solid-State Circuits Conference (ESSCIRC) at the Technische Universität Dresden, Germany. This annual event brings together European Chapter chairs with the SSCS Administrative Committee leadership to review recent Chapter activities and exchange ideas for future events.

The meeting was opened by Prof. Bram Nauta, SSCS president, who welcomed the participants and highlighted the importance of the local Chapters for the growth of the Society. Stefan Rusu, SSCS Chapters coordinator, presented an update on the growth in SSCS Chapters, including a summary of the subsidies and awards available to support Chapter activities. As of December 2018, the Society had 110 Chapters, with several more in the pipeline. The SSCS Distinguished Lecturer (DL) program enables experts from industry and academia to present

the latest technology developments at the Chapter level.

The activities of the Italy, Poland, Benelux, and U.K./Ireland Chapters were reviewed. Highlights included DL visits, meetings with figures from academia and industry, local technical conferences cosponsored by SSCS Chapters, and short courses organized by the local Chapters. The Italy Chapter convened the 2018 Topics on Microelectronics—in its 12th year now—at the University of Milan-Bicocca, and the Benelux Chapter held its Chip Design Contest

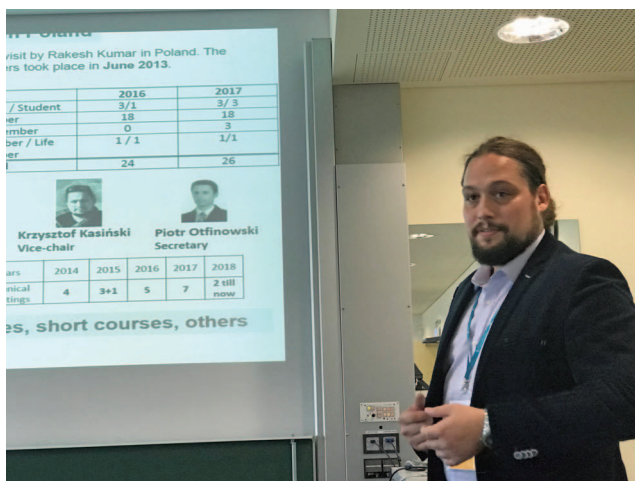
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Filip Tavernier, SSCS Benelux treasurer, presents the SSCS Benelux Chapter activities.



Andrea Baschiroto, SSCS Italy Chapter chair, talks about activities that his Chapter organized in 2018.



Krzysztof Kasinski, SSCS Poland vice chair, explains the SSCS Poland Chapter activities and plans for 2019.



Donnacha O'Riordan, SSCS United Kingdom/Ireland vice chair, presents on the 2018 activities of the SSCS U.K./Ireland Chapter.



The attendees of the SSCS Chapter luncheon at the ESSCIRC conference.

earlier this year. The U.K./Ireland Chapter held the Microelectronics Circuits Centre Ireland Technical Conference in March 2018, with

19 papers presented, and the Poland Chapter is actively organizing the next ESSCIRC in Krakow in September 2019.

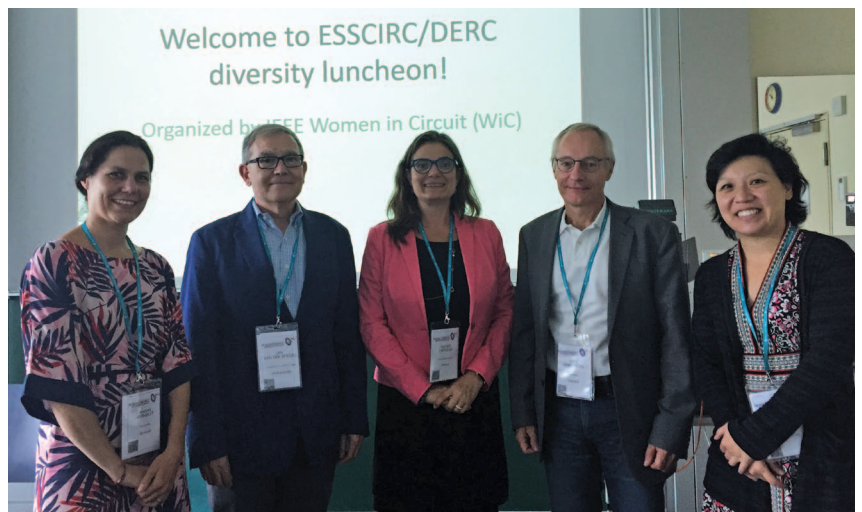
The next Chapter chairs meeting will take place at ISSCC in February 2019.

—Stefan Rusu

SSCS Sponsors Diversity Panel at ESSCIRC/ESSDERC

On 4 September 2018, in Dresden, Germany, at the European Solid-State Circuits Conference/European Solid-State Device Research Conference (ESSCIRC/ESSDERC), the IEEE Solid-State Circuits Society (SSCS) Women in Circuits (WiC) Committee hosted a Diversity Panel Luncheon. The Society provided lunch and drinks for the luncheon participants, hoping to spark a lively discussion. Prof. Marian Verhelst, KU Leuven, was the moderator and presented the committee's activities and future events.

Verhelst introduced the four panelists, who were from academia and industry, and gave short position statements about diversity. First speaking was SSCS Past President Prof. Jan Van der Spiegel, University of Pennsylvania, who presented many statistics regarding the number of women in engineering at large versus those in electrical engineering. He observed that women



The panelists of the ESSCIRC/ESSDERC Diversity Luncheon (from left): Marian Verhelst, Jan Van der Spiegel, Andrea Cathelin, Sven Mattisson, and Alice Wang.

in engineering prefer the environmental and biomedical fields over the electrical and computer areas. One reason, he speculated, was that the former disciplines have a strong human connection, which may be a more powerful draw for women and young professionals. When he was SSCS president, Van

der Spiegel made a big effort to start the WiC Committee and brought this issue to the forefront of the Society.

The second speaker was Dr. Alice Wang, senior director of PsiKick. She shared her thoughts on how to improve diversity by women improving themselves in the workplace through