We Are the Fifth-Largest IEEE Society

After stable membership levels of approximately 10,000 for many years, there has been a significant increase in membership for the IEEE Industry Applications Society (IAS) in the last five years. As of January 2018, IAS has 14,946 members and becomes the fifth-largest IEEE Society (Figure 1) with a remarkable increase in student membership (Figure 2). Membership growth was about 1,000 annually over the last five years. In 2017, 70% of the nearly 5,000 first-year members were undergraduate students (Figure 3).

Due to the continuing globalization process, the majority of the IAS membership is located outside North America (Figure 4). The future trend is clearly demonstrated by the fact that, in 2017, only 13% of the first-year members were from IEEE Regions 1–7 (Figure 5).

About 50% of IAS members belong to the industry sector (Figure 6), but there has been a significant shift of the membership grade distribution. Graduate and undergraduate students make up 31% of the IAS membership (Figure 7).

IAS members are well networked by Chapters. As of March 2018, we have 374 Chapters worldwide, the

**FIGURE 1.** The IAS membership development history, 2003–2018.

**FIGURE 2.** The IAS undergraduate student membership development history from 2003 to 2018.
majority (58%) of the Chapters are Student Branch Chapters, attributed to our intensive Student Branch Chapter development (Figure 8). The membership shift, especially of the younger membership, to regions outside of North America has resulted in 75% of the total and 88% of the Student Branch Chapters located in the IEEE Regions 8–10 (Figure 9). The conclusion can be drawn that all these membership and Chapter statistics reflect the current IAS strategy policy, of globalization and youth activity.