

## **TRANSNATIONAL COMMITTEE REPORT**

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### **Committee Members**

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### **Mission**

The Transnational Committee of the AP-S Society exists to promote the international character of our Society. We encourage all AP-S members to bring to our attention any items of interest that are related to transitional activities.

### **AP-S Survey**

Because the Transnational Committee of the AP-S Society is interested in member satisfaction among all of our members in all geographical regions, the Committee has been engaged in the preparation of a survey of AP-S members to explore how our members feel about our Society and the IEEE in general, and how our Society and the IEEE can further improve service to our members. The survey was distributed by the IEEE to AP-S members in June 2010, and had a total of 51 questions. The questions were divided into the following sections:

- Part 1: Membership (9 questions)
- Part 2: Annual symposium (4 questions)
- Part 3: Chapters (6 questions)

- Part 4: Publications (15 questions)
- Part 5: Transnational relations (12 questions)
- Part 6: Demographics (5 questions)
- Part 7: General comments

**Member Response**

A total of 1474 AP-S members responded to the survey, with 1121 members completing the survey. Out of members who completed the survey, 367 were from outside the U.S. The breakdown by geographical region for the members who completed the survey was as follows:

- Regions 1-6 (U.S.): 854
- Region 7 (Canada): 19
- Region 8 (Africa, Europe, and Middle East): 215
- Region 9 (Latin America): 7
- Region 10 (Asia and Pacific): 122
- Unidentified: 4

This geographic spread is illustrated in Fig. 1 with a pie chart.

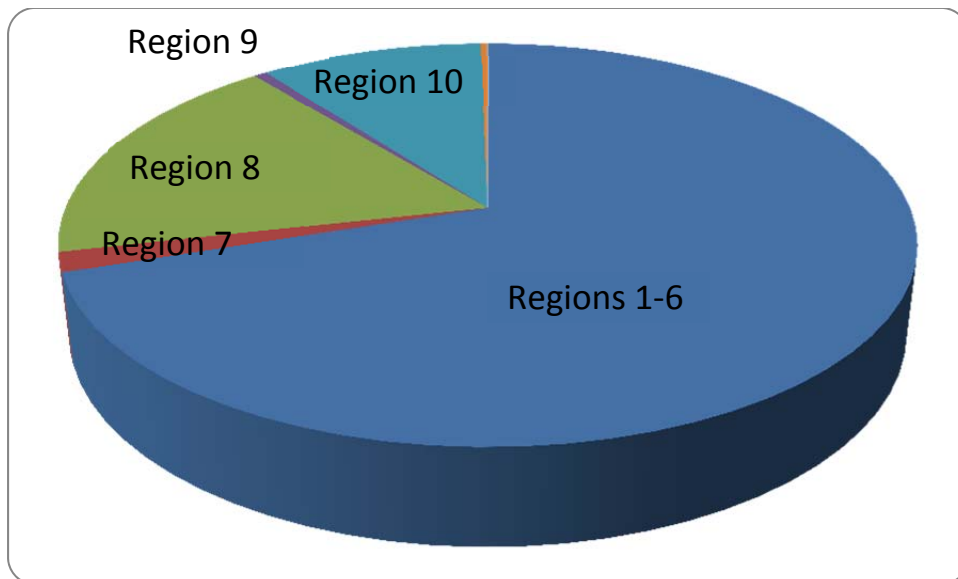


Figure 1. The geographical breakdown of the responses from members who completed the survey.

After the responses were collected, the IEEE prepared a report summarizing all of the results from the questions in each section. The report also contains extensive written comments from the AP-S members for each section. A summary is given below of the results from the survey, broken into different categories.

Comments about the survey and further suggestions from the members are welcome, and should be directed to the chair of the Committee.

### Overall satisfaction with AP-S Membership

As seen in Fig. 2 below, almost 50% of our members indicated that they were 80% satisfied with their AP-S membership (score of 4/5) and almost 30% indicated that they were completely satisfied (score of 5/5). About 28% were somewhat neutral, and 5% were dissatisfied or highly dissatisfied. The percentages were very similar regarding satisfaction with IEEE membership.

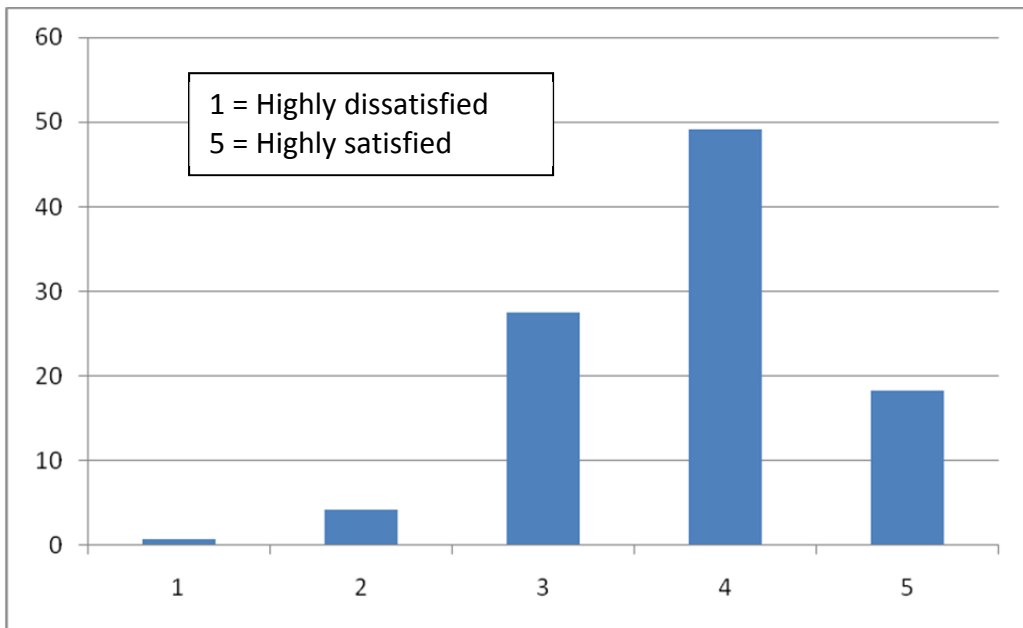


Figure 2. Responses to the question “How satisfied are you with your AP-S membership?” Each bar indicates the percentage of responses in that category.

## General Comments from Members

- Members in industry complain that they do not have access to all of the IEEE periodicals like those at universities do. Providing this would be very helpful.
- Members say that IEEE membership dues should give members access to publications in all Societies from Xplore.
- Members want access to IET articles from Xplore.
- Members want more online learning resources such as tutorials and learning modules available free or at low cost.
- Members like the idea of having webinars.
- Most members want the name of our Society to remain the same (as opposed to changing it to the “IEEE Antennas, Electromagnetics, and Propagation Society”).
- Members from developing countries feel that the AP-S conferences and IEEE membership fees are too expensive for them.
- Members suggest having AP-S organized conferences in Europe and elsewhere.
- Members in developing countries want to be able to pay for membership in their own currency.

## AP-S and IEEE Membership

### *Results from Survey Questions*

- Membership is almost equally divided between academia and other categories (industry/public/government).
- Members are satisfied with their IEEE membership. 66% give a score of 4/5 or higher. 17% give a score of 5/5.
- Members are satisfied with their AP-S membership. 67% give a score of 4/5 or higher. 18% give a score of 5/5.
- Most members feel that overall AP-S is important to their professional life, but this area could use improvement. 58% give a score of 7/10 or higher. 22% give a score of 9/10 or higher. 9% give a score of 10/10.
- Most members feel that overall AP-S provides value to them, but this area could use improvement. 57% give a score of 7/10 or higher. 15% give a score of 9/10 or higher. 7% give a score of 10/10.
- Members feel that the cost of AP-S membership is at about the right amount. 62% indicate that the cost of AP-S membership is about right, while 34% feel it is “a bit” too expensive. Only 3% feel it is much too expensive.
- Most non-U.S. members feel that IEEE membership is too expensive. 24% feel that the membership dues are at about the right amount, 53% feel that the dues are “a bit” too expensive, and 21% feel that the dues are much too expensive.

### *Comments from Members*

- Members would like to see more “tangible” benefits from their memberships (discounts on products, online tutorials, etc.).

## **AP-S Symposium**

### *Results from Survey Questions*

- 47.5% of our members have never attended the AP-S Symposium.
- 58% of our members give a quality rating of 7/10 or higher. 18% give a rating of 90% or higher. 7% give a rating of 10/10.

### *Comments from Members*

- The main suggestion that arose from the members is to reduce the number of papers and improve the quality of the papers.
- Members would like to see more symposium sessions and papers that are practical, as opposed to academically-oriented ones. [Suggested by written comments]
- Members like the idea of getting students involved in the Symposium.
- Members suggest lower registration costs for members from economically disadvantaged countries, though there are also some strong opinions against it.
- Members suggest holding the AP-S Symposium in other countries as well as the U. S.

## **AP-S Chapters**

### *Results from Survey Questions*

- The majority of our members (59%) have never attended a Chapter meeting.
- About 20% of our members attend a Chapter meeting once a year or more often.

### *Comments from Members*

- Many members complain that their Chapter is not very active, or that the meetings are held too far away for them.

## **AP-S Transactions**

### *Results from Survey Questions*

- Members are pleased with the quality of the Transactions (86% give a rating of 7/10 or higher). 46% give a rating of 9/10 or higher. 22% give a rating of 10/10. 97% of the members read it.
- Most members (73%) feel there is a good balance between theory and practice. However, a significant percentage (24%) feels it is too theoretical. Only 3% feel it is too practical.

*Comments from Members*

- Members feel that the articles are mainly academically oriented, and suggest more industry involvement.
- One suggestion is to have members receive by email a “Table of Contents” each month.

**AWPL (Antennas and Wireless Propagation Letters)**

*Results from Survey Questions*

- Members are pleased with the quality of the AWPL. 58% of our members give a rating of 7/10 or higher. 21% of our members give a rating of 9/10 or higher. 9% give a rating of 10/10. 74% of our members read it.
- Most members (85%) feel there is a good balance between theory and practice. About 7% feel it is too theoretical while about 8% feel it is too practical.

*Comments from Members*

- Members like having the rapid publication of the AWPL.

**AP-S Magazine**

*Results from Survey Questions*

- Members are very pleased with the quality of the Magazine. 80% give it a rating of 7/10 or higher. 38% give it a 9/10 or higher. 21% give it a 10/10. 97% of the members read it.
- Most members (87%) feel there is a good balance between theory and practice. About 8% feel it is too theoretical while about 5% feel it is too practical.

*Comments from Members*

- Members like having tutorials in the Magazine and suggest having more of these.

## **IEEE Xplore and AP-S DVD**

### *Results from Survey Questions*

- Members are pleased with their ability to access AP-S articles on Xplore.
- The majority of the members feel that the DVD is still worthwhile, but opinions are mixed. 51% give a rating of 7/10 or higher.

### *Comments from Members*

- Members would really like to be able to access all IEEE and IET content on Xplore.

## **Conclusions and Future Work**

The results from the AP-S survey reveal that, overall, our members are satisfied with their AP-S membership. However, the results also suggest room for improvement, and suggestions from our members indicate some specific ways in which our Society could improve service to our members. Results from the survey have been distributed to the AP-S AdCom for consideration of possible action items as deemed appropriate, in order to improve service to our members.