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| **SC 2014 Proposed Recommendation: R7** |
| **Suggestion # \_1\_ From R7: \_\_London\_\_\_ Area** |
| **Region:** | **7** |
| **Recommendation (no more than 50 words):** | It is recommended that the IEEE create a ranked and categorized database of speakers that Sections and Chapters can use to aid in finding and scheduling IEEE events. The associated user interface would allow for searching by distance and by time in order to improve event coverage and efficiency. |
| **Why is this recommendation being submitted? (no more than 150 words):** | One consistent challenge for Sections and Chapters is finding and scheduling speakers for IEEE events. The Distinguished Lecturer program provides a helpful list of potential high-profile speakers, but most of the speakers for smaller scale local events are found through personal or industrial connections. Gaining awareness of the activities of nearby regions involves manually querying multiple websites or accessing L31 reports of past events. The proposed database would draw on such existing data and improve its visibility in order to better identify potential speakers, as well as making it easier to reduce repetition and improve travel scheduling for speakers.  |
| **MGA Goal/Strategy/Other goal Supported:** | Increase operational efficiency and effectiveness within MGA and its interfaces.Enhance collaboration with other organization units.Provide a simple, consistent interface to members and prospective members. |
| **Identified measures of success (i.e. What does it take to consider this recommendation achieved?):** | The adoption of such a database by the volunteers, which can be measured through usage statistics. |
| **Financial Implications (Does this need money?)** | There will be costs involved in web application development and maintenance resources. |
| **Has this been included as a recommendation at a** [**previous Sections Congress**](http://www.ieee.org/societies_communities/geo_activities/sections_congress/2011/sc2011_recommendations.html) **(\*) ?** | A similar recommendation was put forward at SC2011 (#5), though the current recommendation focuses on the technical tools necessary to facilitate the concept. |
| **Contact for additional information (name and email address)** | Murray MacDonaldmurraymacdonald@ieee.org |
| **Proposed Champion for this recommendation (i.e. , person who will follow up, agree to work with MGA Board in achieving this recommendation)** | Dennis Michaelsondmichaelson@gmail.com |
| **Submission Date** |  |
| ***Indicate Recommendation Category below:*** |  |  |
|  | *Business Financial/ Operations* |  | *Membership* |
| ***X*** | *IT Operations* |  | *Public Awareness & New Technology* |
|  | *Member Benefits* |  | *Recruitment/ Retention (Membership)* |
|  | *Member Growth and Development* |  | *Other:*  |