IEEE student branch officers involved in the IEEE University Partnership Program participate in the annual Leaders’ Summit.

STUDENT AND EDUCATIONAL ENGAGEMENT
Students are our future. IEEE works every day to maintain and enhance the connection to student members worldwide because they are the ones who will create the great technologies of tomorrow.

Young Members of IEEE Get Upgrades
IEEE works hard to maintain strong ties with up-and-coming technologists by always adjusting to their changing wants and needs. For example, in 2014 we updated the Graduates of the Last Decade (GOLD), with a new name: IEEE Young Professionals. Established in 1998, the program helps bring recent graduates together to network, develop professional skills, and find jobs. To further engage its international community of enthusiastic and innovative members, IEEE Young Professionals expanded its webinar series in 2014. New webinars included “Leadership Excellence” and “The Importance of Mentoring Relationships.”

Meanwhile, the Student Professional Awareness Committee (SPAC) embarked on a total makeover of its programs to celebrate its 35th anniversary. SPAC launched its new program, called SPAx (pronounced “spah-x”), which is designed to allow students and student branches more flexibility in designing activities to engage, explore, and experience real-life career and professional development. Designed with student input, the new approach will enable IEEE to reach more students, create better and longer-lasting experiences, and encourage students to remain engaged with IEEE long after they graduate.

IEEE Student Members Learn Leadership Skills at Event in Krakow, Poland
In August, students and young professionals from universities in Europe, Africa, and the Middle East gathered together for the IEEE Region 8 Student and Young Professional Congress. During the four-day event, the 400 attendees enjoyed networking opportunities, received exposure to industry representatives, and attended a series of workshops and a poster session where 115 student branches, IEEE societies, and industrial firms presented over 150 posters. Workshops were also held where small groups collaborated on concepts for an IEEE mobile application. The overall goal was to engage students and young professionals and get them excited about being more active in IEEE.
IEEE to Offer Learning Worldwide via edX
EdX is a nonprofit online initiative created by founding partners Harvard and MIT. It offers online classes and massive open online courses from the world’s best universities, colleges, and organizations, including MITX, HarvardX, BerkeleyX, UTX, and others. In 2014, IEEE became a member of edX, agreeing to bring our expertise to a global audience via free massive open online courses and other continuing professional education courses at edx.org.

TryEngineering Launches Mobile Site
TryEngineering.org is a portal for students, parents, teachers, and school counselors that provides information about engineering, computing, technology, and related careers. It includes lesson plans, games, career descriptions, profiles of professionals, and a global database of accredited engineering and computing programs.

The site averages over 93,000 unique visitors per month and that number rose significantly with the September 2014 launch of the TryEngineering mobile site. In October, the site received more than 195,000 visitors, with about 40,000 of them accessing the site from a mobile phone.

Steve Welch, Educational Activities, and Anant Agarwal, edX CEO, confirm the new partnership.