

IEEE Biometrics Council Strategic Plan 2025-2030

Approved 9/18/2025

Vision: Be the leading and driving force within and outside the IEEE for the advancement and sustainability of the field of biometrics.

Mission:

1. To serve the members of our member societies and the worldwide biometrics technical community through the organization and support of high-quality conferences, workshops, and journals.
2. To support educational activities that benefit new professionals, experienced practitioners, and researchers in this area.
3. To disseminate technical content through IEEE-sponsored publications entirely dedicated to biometrics and identity science.
4. To collaborate with our member societies to promote ethical and trustworthy use of biometric technology to improve quality of life

The Council's field of interest (FOI) is the theory, design, and application of biometric characterization of human beings based on physiological and/or behavioral features and traits, for recognition, e.g., identification and identity verification, identity science, and forensics, incorporating strong privacy and security.

Short Term Strategic Goals (1-2 years)

1. Foster diversity and inclusion of volunteers, emphasizing regional representation and young professionals.
2. Increase our reach (# newsletter, social media, etc) and improve outreach to geographic regions through our activities
3. Increase educational activities including summer/winter schools, professional education
4. Increase activities of webinars, local chapters, & Distinguished Lecturer Program
5. Increase the annual numbers of IEEE T-BIOM after the journal has been indexed
6. Increase IEEE T-BIOM's attractiveness as the leading publication in biometrics and identity science, by targeting special issues and position papers on emerging areas. In addition, ensuring a short review time while still guaranteeing high-quality of the reviews.
7. Ensure volunteers are prepared for their role by providing training and materials
8. Expand activities of existing chapters and promote new chapters
9. Establish collaborations with industrial organizations and increase industrial volunteer participation in the Council through a Distinguished Industry Speaker Program.
10. We plan to encourage regional biometrics schools to cover regions yet to be covered
11. Revise Council by-laws to position the council for the next phase of growth.

Long Term Strategic Goals (5 years)

1. Initiate a new publication, the IEEE Magazine on Biometrics,
2. Ensure a component of our activities is freely available, worldwide
3. Increase the industry level of involvement in IEEE Biometrics Council
4. Serve the worldwide community interested in biometrics technology and applications through high-quality conferences and workshops.
5. Advance the science and technology of biometrics for the benefit of humanity and enhance IEEE's visibility in biometrics.
6. Strengthen educational activities to create and nurture the industry professionals and the next generation of biometrics researchers & practitioners.
7. Support the professional practice of the biometrics technical community to serve the worldwide community interested in biometrics technology and applications.
8. Increase engagement in standards activities around biometrics
9. Enhance international visibility and connection of the council through honors and awards.
10. Engage in joint initiatives with other IEEE Societies/Councils, such as joint technical sponsorship of conferences and financial co-sponsorship of journals.
11. Promote activities that support the future resilience of biometrics, including aspects such explainability, fairness, and privacy enhancing technologies and security in the post-quantum age.

Operational Plan for Next Year

Responsibilities of President

- Research creating a VP Standards
 - Liaison between FIDO and ISO/IEC - what can we offer? Biometrics Institute?
- Increase Adcom membership on our committees
- Support VP initiatives
- Strengthen relationships with member societies through joint activities

Responsibilities of VP Publication

- IEEE T-BIOM:
 - Expand the T-BIOM editorial board to handle the potentially increased number of submissions due to the IF release, expected in June 2025.
 - Increase the number of published issues per year, growing from four to six to twelve, to accommodate the increased number of accepted papers.
- Magazine: Establish a generalist, industrial-focused magazine to be published twice a year for the first two years and then grow to four issues per year.
- Training: Establish regular training for editors-in-chief, associate editors, and authors at the flagship conferences (IJCB and FG).
- Open access: establish an APC waiver policy for meritorious publications and/or publications exclusively authored by colleagues from underdeveloped countries.
- Industrial involvement: Increase industry in the T-BIOM and the Newsletter editorial board

Responsibilities of VP Technical Activities

- Revitalize existing chapters
 - Establish monthly communication with chapters and encourage activities/feedback/reports
 - Periodically communicate to chapter chairs about availability of funds from the Chapter support program & other resources
 - Advertise the possibility of DLP talks to chapters and explore options for online DLP lectures (check charter)
 - Regularly ask for contributions to the newsletter
 - Ask to create section on Council website
- Introduce award for junior members of council
 - Introduce a new award targeting junior members of our community
 - Draft proposal to IEEE and handle the approval process
- Webinars
 - Organize periodical webinars on topics of interest to the Council
 - Update webinar registration form (and update manual) - add if part of a chapter
- Awards

- Organize the call for awards at the end of the year
- Find new Awards Chair
- Solicit 3 nominations for all award categories

Responsibilities of VP Education

- Create education materials focused on industry professionals
- Revitalize DLP program
 - more online DLs
 - give webinars
 - More basic educational topics
 - More diversity

Responsibilities of VP Conferences

- Expand in other regions of the world; Online possibly co-sponsored with larger society, topics of interest to industry
- Create and maintain conference guidebooks by making them available to all organizers of the Biometrics Council.

Responsibilities of VP Finance

- Develop an overview of operational activities that impact the committee's financial status, using insights from the IEEE financial analyst.
- Regular meeting with IEEE financial analyst to map the quarterly forecast and update in the budget for operational activities.

Operational Plan for Out Years

Responsibilities of President

- What is happening at the IEEE level around regulatory and policy engagement? Should we be involved?
- Further develop emerging BC areas
 - Identity science
 - Deepfakes, detect attacks
 - Behavioral/health
- Engage with societies through joint conferences, joint chapters, and/or student activities
- Increase Adcom membership on our committees

Responsibilities of VP Publication

- T-BIOM
 - Expansion of the editorial board
 - Continuous education for authors, reviewers, and editors
 - Periodical review of the EDICS to be aligned with the evolution of research

- Define a plan to have published on T-BIOM regularly, once/twice a year, position papers to highlight the current challenges in the field
- Social Media:
 - Consolidate the Biometrics Council's presence and monitor its effectiveness
 - Creation of an editorial board for fostering news to be published on Social Media
- Newsletter:
 - Enhance the newsletter's outreach and monitor its effectiveness.
 - Involvement of junior editors for community building
 - Increase of the industrial presence in the editorial board and as contributors

Responsibilities of VP Technical Activities

- Create Mentorship program
 - Draft manual and define objectives
 - Allocate funding and later monitor expenses
 - Find potential PhD students to act as mentors
 - Find undergrads to be mentored
- Solicit nominations for newly established Junior-level researcher award
- Award visibility
 - Establish procedures to increase the visibility of the Council's awards
 - Set up a file to keep track of statistics - demographics of nominees and winners, etc.
- Revitalize Technical Committees
 - Draft manual for Technical Committees
 - Ask for elections of TC chairs (fixed terms)
 - Define methodology and draft questionnaire for measuring performance
- Technical committees
 - Establish new TCs in emerging/timely areas
 - Discontinue TCs that are not relevant or active

Responsibilities of VP Education

- Continuously support the summer school in Italy and the winter school in Shenzhen by providing travel grants to students.
- Increase the support to underrepresented regions such as South America and Africa by creating chapters and organizing educational activities.
- Make DLP active by inviting chapters to host distinguished lectures.

Responsibilities of VP Conferences

- Ensure the financial health of the conferences in the portfolio, especially with regards to changing political conditions reducing research budgets on both sides of the Atlantic and affecting conference attendances.
- Bring BC conferences to previously unorganized locations (such as north Africa) to increase impact.

- Protecting the core values of IEEE, such as student support.
- Organize training activities at conferences in our portfolio to increase the quality and participation across the Council activities, such as AE trainings, doctoral consortia, “Ask me Anything” sessions, etc.

Responsibilities of VP Finance

- Develop an overview of operational activities that impact the committee's financial status, using insights from the IEEE financial analyst.
- Develop a portfolio to understand the financial impact on new initiative ongoing essential operational activities.
- Regular meeting with IEEE financial analyst to map the quarterly forecast and update in the budget for operational activities.