IEEE Bulgaria Section Report October 2012

1. Highlights from the past
   - Technical co sponsorship of InfoTech 2012 conference, in cooperation with section Bulgaria
   - Technical co sponsorship of ELMA 2012 conference, in cooperation with section Bulgaria
   - Technical co sponsorship of IEEE conference Intelligent Systems 2012 in cooperation with IM09/CS23/SMC28 Chapter and CIS11 Chapter
   - Technical co sponsorship of the conference Electronics in Sozopol, 2012. It is done with active support of AP03/ED15/MTT17/CPMT Joint Chapter and CAS04/SSC37 Chapter
   - Support of summer school in CAD in Electronics (16th to 31th July) in cooperation with ED/SSC Chapter Varna, and Student Branch Varna. Active IEEE student membership promotion during the school.
   - Technical co sponsorship of the conference CompSysTech 2012, Russe; Summer School on Laser Physics and Applications

2. Future activities
   - Contract for cooperation with National Society of engineers in Electronics, power engineering, automation, communication and computer science
   - The support of the student paper award and student branch activities is also non-interruptive task of the section. The student branches in Sofia and Varna are not very active technically

3. Best practices
   - Section is in good cooperation with neighboring sections, national societies of engineers, national camera of engineers
   - Section Bulgaria supports its members during the membership applications and especially those without credit cards
   - The contacts with members are based on person-to-person communications, email, and phone. The section is regionally distributed and local officers are supporting the process
   - Contacts with industry are also person-to-person based. The industry officer has difficulties to cover broad subject areas and to attract high level management in big companies

4. Points of concern / Topics for future discussion
   - Difficult recruitment of new volunteers among both regular members and student members. People are concentrated on their jobs and subject
   - Student members are not interested in subscription to complicated papers. They do prefer overview data on the subject of their study
   - Business people are not interested in high level scientific papers. They do prefer more marketing and innovation oriented data

5. Miscellaneous
   - Visit of distinguished lecturer from CAS Prof. Franco Maloberti with lectures on “Technology Scaling and Analog Design” and “Power Efficient Data Converters”
   - Visit of distinguished lecturer from SP Prof. Tulay Adali, Department of CSEE (Computer Science and Electrical Engineering), UMBC (University of Maryland, Baltimore County) with lecture “Data Driven Analysis and Fusion of Medical Imaging Data”
   - Section Bulgaria has long and productive cooperation with National Society of Engineers. The contract is under renew
   - Formation of new chapters on vehicle engineering, power electronics and power engineering started. There are colleagues from industry interested to support
   - Cooperation with chapters is generally good. Part of the chapters are not very active in conference participation
   - People from industry do not see sense in cooperation with IEEE. The Industry Relations Officer has difficulties
   - The promotion of the IEEE to local community is done usually on seminars, workshops and conferences. The same is valid for new technologies