

IEEE Republic of Macedonia Section Report April 2013**1. Highlights from the past**

- During the period September 2012 – March 2013, our Section organized: 6 technical and 6 administrative meetings (not all of them are reported on vTools yet).
- The Section has co-organized (through the Student Branch) and supported the student activity: EBEC – European BEST Engineering Competition (April 25-27.2013) organized together with BEST (Board of European Students of Technology).
- The Section has supported the student activity: RoboMac 2013 (12-16 March 2013). RoboMac was organised by IEEE Student Branch (SS Cyril and Methodius University) in cooperation with EESTEC - Macedonia and the Student Parliament of the Faculty of Electrical Engineering and IT. About 100 students (35 from 16 countries other than Republic of Macedonia) participated in this event. The event consists of 5 day competition among mixed teams (team members from different countries) and 11 technical lectures delivered by professors or professionals. This event has been supported by IEEE Control System Society.
- Also the section has sponsored the II Summer Symposium on Electronics and Signal Processing held in Mavrovo (LEOS 2012) organized by the Institute of Electronics from Faculty of Electrical Engineering and IT on 15-16 September 2012.
- The senior member initiative was continued. New 6 senior members have been approved.

2. Future activities

- We plan to co-organize or sponsor 3 conferences (XLVIII International Scientific Conference on Information, Communication and Energy Systems and Technologies ICEST 2013; XI International Conference on Electronics, Telecommunications, Automatics and Informatics - ETAI 2013; and the 16th International Symposium on Electromagnetic Fields in Mechatronics, Electrical and Electronic Engineering - ISEF 2013)
- We are still working on developing web pages for the chapters that don't have one.
- The senior member initiative will continue this year.
- Membership development activities are planned, especially among the engineers working in companies other than Universities.
- Promotion of IEEE in the industry sector and in other Universities in Republic of Macedonia.
- Regular technical and administrative meetings as well as some social meetings are planned.
- We are planning to support at list one student to attend IEEE CEuSBC 2013 will be held in Opole (Poland) from 13th to 15th May 2013
- Sponsoring a student conference to be held in second week of May 2013.

3. Best practices

- Section ExCom is collecting membership fees from students in local currency and fees are paying directly to IEEE from Section custody account. This way we collect some funds in local currency and avoid the necessity of transfer small amounts with high provision fees from the custody account. Unfortunately it is impossible to this way of membership payment to all members.

4. Points of concern / Topics for future discussion

- Retention of student members after graduation.
- Enhance professional networking opportunities.
- Low membership from industry.
- Recruiting volunteers becomes a big problem
- We experience a problem with retention of members, especially when they leave the University

5. Miscellaneous

- New officer for Awards and recognition has been appointed
- Possibility to enhance the Distinguished Lecturers programs
- Possible agreement with the national society for Electronics, Telecommunications, Informatics and Automatics is under consideration
- The possibility of establishing another student branch is under consideration.
- New Chapter initiative has been started.