IEEE Republic of Macedonia Section Report October 2013   Goce L Arsov

Highlights from the past
- During the period   March 2013 – September 2013, our Section organized: 4 technical (one DL) and 3 administrative meetings (not all of them are reported on vTools yet)
- The section has co-organized or sponsored 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
- The senior member initiative continues this year.
- Regular technical and administrative meetings as well as some social meetings were organized.
- SB Activities
  - EBEC – European BEST Engineering Competition (April 25-27.2013) organized together with BEST (Board of European Students of Technology).
  - RoboMac 2013 (12-16 March 2013). RoboMac was organised by IEEE Student Branch in cooperation with EESTEC - Macedonia and the Student Parliament of the FEIT. About 100 students (35 from 16 countries other than Republic of Macedonia) participated in this event.
  - The Student Branch representative has attended the IEEE CEuSBC 2013 held in Opole (Poland) from 13th to 15th May 2013
  - The Section, through its Student branch has co-sponsored the student conference on Energy Efficiency - May 9-11,2013.

Future activities
- The election process of new officers (2014-2015) has been started
- 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.
- The meeting for honoring the 65th anniversary of the invention of the transistor is planned

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.

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

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