

**IEEE Bulgaria Section Report October 2013****Rossitza I Goleva****Highlights from the past**

- Technical co-sponsorship of InfoTech 2013 conference, in cooperation with section Bulgaria
- Technical and financial co-sponsorship of 2013 IEEE International Symposium on Innovations in Intelligent Systems and Applications (INISTA) in cooperation with section Bulgaria and section Turkey
- Technical co-sponsorship of the conference Electronics in Sozopol, 2013. It is done with active support of AP03/ED15/MTT17/CPMT Joint Chapter and CAS04/SSC37 Chapter.
- Technical co-sponsorship of the conference Electronic Systems 2013, Sofia
- Technical and financial co-sponsorship of conference Telecommunications 2013 in Sofia, Bulgaria
- Summer school on SSC in Varna, financial sponsorship by section Bulgaria
- Travel expense support to the student to attend student congress.

**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
- Organization of four Distinguished lecturers tours and nomination of one distinguished lecturer

**Best practices**

- Section is in good cooperation with neighboring sections, national societies of engineers, national chamber 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 support 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

**Points of concern / Topics for future discussion**

- Difficult recruitment of new volunteers among both regular members and student members.
- Student members are not interested in subscription to complicated papers. They do prefer overview documents 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

**Miscellaneous**

- The promotion of the IEEE to local community is done usually on seminars, workshops and conferences. The same is valid for new technologies
- Most of the work on engagement Members, Chapters, Student Branches, and Affinity Groups in the life of the section is open to the interested groups. We use conferences and professional seminars for meetings
- Most of the partnerships with other associations, geographic units and industry are based on the personal face-to-face meeting
- There is an interest to the new technology opportunities in small to medium business because they like to create unique products
- People in the section like to view and download papers from the digital library. Packet subscription on 100 papers or 30 papers or 500 papers in time slots, free subscription during the entire year could help to increase the interest to the IEEE publications
- Free access promotions to the digital library and other overview documents attracts the possible members
- Financial planning within the section is open to the chapters. Chapter Chairs and members could organize events, write proposals and use the money as they decide in accordance to the bylaw. Our section supports financially more than 5 conferences annually