• Facts about Republic of Macedonia
  • Location: South east Europe
  • Capital: Skopje
  • Surface: ~ 25000 km²
  • Inhabitants: ~2 million
Membership status: Compared to 2012, an increase of 73% in 2013

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of IEEE Communications Society Members from R. Macedonia</th>
<th>Year 2013</th>
<th>Year 2012</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Senior Member</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Member</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate Student Member</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Member</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>59</strong></td>
<td><strong>34</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Chapter activities in years of 2012 and 2013

- Establishment and maintenance of Chapter web page:
  • http://chapters.comsoc.org/macedonia

- Establishment and maintenance of Chapter Facebook profile

- ComSoc Macedonia Student Achievement Award
  • Established first time in 2012
  • The price is awarded for research results in telecommunications to one student (preference to IEEE journal or conference publications)
  • Student must be enrolled as a Bachelor or a Master student in Telecommunications and Communications Technologies at any University in the Republic of Macedonia.

- 2012 award winner: Elena Boskovska - second place won at regional student competition in telecommunications (“Elektrijada 2012”, Kranevo, Bulgaria)
Activities to increase membership

- Web-page and Facebook announcements for IEEE membership discounts

- Active advertisement of IEEE and ComSoc among students at Macedonian Universities, explanation of student membership benefits (several volunteers involved)

- Problems with membership:
  - most of the non-student members are involved with academia (university professors)
  - insufficient motivation of industry to join (IEEE membership fee steadily grows in each consecutive year, industry does not invest too much in innovation and research)
  - insufficient motivation of students to join (do not see any immediate benefit. for example, the basic telecommunications literature is widely available on the internet – free of charge!)
Immediate plans

- Invitation of a ComSoc Distinguished Lecturer (DL)
  - Contact has already been initiated with 2 DLs with expertise in cooperative communications and green communications
  - DL Tour would involve Macedonia (Skopje), Serbia (Novi Sad and Belgrade), Greece (Athens) and Turkey (Ankara)
  - Planned for Autumn 2013

- A high profile researcher (lecturer), prof. Ian Akyildiz (Georgia Tech, USA) will give a lecture at the University of Skopje on 24 June 2013. Stay and lecture co-organized and paid by the ComSoc Macedonia Chapter