

IEEE CASS Outreach Initiative 2014 - Report

1. Title: Electronics' day: Future innovations depend on you

2. Name of the proposer: assistant professor PhD Valentina Markova, Technical University of Varna, Bulgaria

3. Date: October 18 and November 15, 2014

4. Place: Faculty of Electronics, Technical university of Varna

5. Participants: 132

6. Brief description of the activity:

Two events called “Electronics day: Future innovations depend on you” were organized in the Technical university of Varna, as part of the CASS activities for pre-university students and teachers. The goal of these Electronics' days was to convince the young students, that learning of circuits design can be easy, pleasant and understandable. The events were attended by students and teachers from 18 secondary schools from 8 different city of Northeast Bulgaria.

The Outreach Event started with two presentations. First, prof. Dimova - dean of Faculty of Electronic – introduced the participants with the objective of the event and presented the study programs and requirements for studying in TU-Varna. Next, prof. Kolev who is vice chair of Bulgarian IEEE section introduced the benefits from IEEE CASS membership for the students interested in engineering education and career. During the talk the attendees received handouts for two different hands-on activities. After the lunch break the participants were separated into two groups depending on their choice.

The hands-on activities:

- Basic circuit design with educational solderless electronic kit
- Basic circuit design with Arduino and LabView

During the trainings, some engineering students from the IEEE branch in TU Varna were mentoring the participants in their work, answering their questions as well, and also giving explanations regarding the given tasks. The best students were awarded with some symbolic prizes (lighters, memory sticks, chocolates and etc.)

All attendees were required to provide feedback for the event completing a questionnaire.

The participants were greatly satisfied with the activity. The event gave them opportunities to interact between each other and helped them to create relationships and future collaborations.

Many of the students declared the intention to enroll in an engineering education in the future. Some information/advertising materials were spread amongst participants. All correspondence with attendees, advertising materials and handouts included the IEEE CASS logo.

Finally, all attendees received certificates for attendance.

The activity was announced on the web pages of CASS and Technical university of Varna and in emails among all secondary schools in Northeast Bulgaria.

Program:

Electronics' day	
10.30-11.30 a.m	Presentations session
12.00-13.00 p.m	lunch
13.00-16.30 p.m	hands-on activities

7. Metrics to measure its success

- Number of participants informed about IEEE CASS activities - 150
- Number of participants involved in the trainings - 132
- Number of the implemented circuit designs and Arduino projects (during the trainings) - 55
- Number of the posed questions and given comments (during the presentation and the final meeting) – as a measure of the degree of interest
- Number cities and schools that have sent their representatives to participate in the outreach event – 8 cities; 18 schools
- The percent of the students chosen electronics related specialties as their further education (claimed in the questionnaire). - 80

8. Expense Budget:

Category	Amount
Arduino kits	820\$
Electronics kits	557\$
Catering service for the event	776\$
Drinks for the event	156\$
Travel expenses for students and teachers	1046\$
Promotional materials and prizes	645\$
total payments	4000\$

9. List of participants
students

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10. Pictures



Design Evolution Progress





More pictures can be found in the facebook page of IEEE TU Varna Student branch.