

Balkan Conference ICEST hosted in Niš for the fifth time

The ICEST Conference succeed a series of conferences started from 1963 at the Technical University of Sofia under the name “Day of the Radio”. In 1977, the name of the Conference was changed into “Communication, electronic and computer systems”. Since 2000, it has become an international conference under the name EIST (Energy and Information Systems and Technologies). The first two EIST Conferences were organized by the Faculty of Communications and Communication Technologies, Sofia and the Faculty of Technical Sciences, Bitola.

In 2002, the Faculty of Electronic Engineering, Niš joined successfully the Conference organizers. Once again, the Conference changed its name becoming ICEST (International Scientific Conference on Information Communication and Energy Systems and Technologies). The XLIX International Scientific Conference on Information, Communication and Energy Systems and Technologies - ICEST 2014 was held from June 25 to 27, 2014, at the Faculty of Electronic Engineering, University of Niš, Serbia. This big Balkan event was, for the thirteenth time, jointly organized by the Faculty of Electronic Engineering, Niš, Serbia; the Faculty of Telecommunications, Sofia, Bulgaria, and by the Faculty of Technical Sciences, Bitola, Macedonia. The conference was supported by the Academy of Engineering Sciences of Serbia and Serbia and Montenegro IEEE Section, and under auspices of Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development of Republic of Serbia.

The ICEST 2014 conference officially starts with the Opening Ceremony on Wednesday, June 25. After a welcome speech of Prof. Bratislav Milovanović, the general chairman of the conference, the participants and numerous guests were addressed by Prof. Kalin Dimitrov and Prof. Cvetko Mitrovski, the conference vice chairmen, Dr. Biljana Stošić, Chairperson of the IEEE Women in Engineering – Affinity Group of Serbia and Montenegro Section, Prof. Dragan Denić, the vice-dean of the Faculty of Electronic Engineering, as well as Prof. Bane Vasić from University of Arizona, USA. After the Conference opening one plenary paper entitled “Prospective Analysis of Large and Complex Partially Observed Evolving Information Networks” was given by Prof. Dr. Zoran Obradović from Temple University, Philadelphia, USA.



Prof. Bane Vasić at the Opening Ceremony



Plenary speaker Prof. Zoran Obradović

As to the earlier ICEST conferences, many authors from institutions all over the Europe submitted their papers. The peer review process was performed by an International Reviewer Board, and according to their decision 116 papers have been selected for presentation, between them 57 papers were accepted for oral presentations and 59 papers as poster presentations. In total, there was the same number of oral (8) and poster (8) sessions.

Among scientific presentations, the conference was included two meetings, one with Regional Chamber of Economy – ICT Society (RCC) on Wednesday, June 25, and other with Cluster of Advance Technologies of Niš City (NICAT) on Thursday, June 26.



One of the eight poster sessions



Sightseeing - Visit to Romuliana



Signal Processing session (audience and speaker)

A social program of the Conference, rich in events, provided more relaxing atmosphere for meeting the colleagues. At the second conference day, a sightseeing tour was organized. ICEST participants had the opportunity to choose between two offers: 1. visiting cultural and historical sights of Niš and 2. visiting Roman archaeological site - Romuliana. They have chosen the second offer, and spend one afternoon in Romuliana near Zaječar. The conference dinner was organized at the end of that day. National cuisine, live music, and, most importantly, cheerful guests made the evening memorable.

We would like to thank to all of the authors, members of the Technical Program Committee and Organizing Committee, reviewers, generous sponsors, and all the others who participated in organization and in the Conference itself. We believe that we all together achieved a great success with all organization-technical and scientific activities and made this respectful Conference better year after year.

Prof. Dr. *Bratislav Milovanović*, ICEST 2014 General Chairman
 Dr. *Biljana Stošić*, ICEST 2014 Organizing Committee

University of Niš, Faculty of Electronic Engineering
 Aleksandra Medvedeva 14, Niš, Serbia
bratislav.milovanovic@elfak.ni.ac.rs
biljana.stosic@elfak.ni.ac.rs