PART A - SECTION SUMMARY

A.1 Executive Summary

Executive committee members were selected for the 2013-2014 period as follows.

Chair: Futao Kaneko, Niigata University
Vice-chair: Shiro Handa, Shinshu University
Secretary: Kentaro Nishimori, Niigata University
Treasurer: Minoru Maruyama, Shinshu University
Past-chair: Kiyoshi Ohishi, Nagaoka University of Technology
Membership Development Chair: Go Imada, Niigata Institute of Technology
Student Activities Chair: Nobuhiro Harada, Nagaoka University of Technology
Nominations Chair: Yoshio Yamaguchi, Niigata University
Technical Program Chair: Tadashi Tsubone, Nagaoka University of Technology
Other Executive Committee: Masahiro Iwasaki, Nagaoka University of Technology
Other Executive Committee: Takashi Abe, Niigata University

In 2014, we organized 4 board meetings, 2 open lectures and 2 IEEE sessions in corporation with IEICE and IEEJ in the Shin-Etsu region in Japan. We supported 2 students in our section through IEEE Shin-Etsu young researcher paper award, and 5 students through international conference award.

A.2 Financial Report

Our balance at the end of 2014 was 1,385,490 yen. Income for 2014 totaled 2,339,974 yen. Expenses in 2014 were 954,484 yen, resulting in a balance at the end of 2014 of 1,385,490 yen, which is about US$11,643 at an exchange rate of 119 yen/$.

PART B - ORGANIZATIONAL ACTIVITIES

B.1 Membership Development Activities

Active Member Counts are as follows.
Affiliate 1, Associate Member 16, Fellow 4, Graduate Student Member 11, Life Fellow 2, Life Member 5, Member 185, Senior Member 12, Student Member 7.
[243 in total]

In order to increase membership, we offer awards to student members. We also encourage members to apply for higher membership status. To this end, some of our executive committee members applied and were accepted for Senior Member status. These members can know encourage other members to apply by outlining the application procedure and helping with the required documents.

B.2 Chapter Activities

At present there are no chapters in our section. Formation of a chapter is under consideration.

B.3 Professional and Continuing Education Activities

We organized and/or co-sponsored the following technical meetings and lectures in 2014.

1. Oct. 4; IEEE Session at the IEICE Shin-Etsu Section Conference.
2. Oct. 27; "Special Lecture: Title: MAMR: from analytics to system performance", lectured by Dr. Kirill Rivkin, Ph.D. (Seagate Technology, Senior Staff Engineer and Concept Designer)

3. Nov. 9: IEEE Session at the IEEJ Tokyo Section, Niigata Chapter Technical Meeting.
4. Nov. 9: "Special Lecture: Title: Flexible electronics by printing, " lectured by Dr. Toshihide Kamata (Advanced Industrial Science and Technology).

B.4 Students Activities

At present, there are no student branches in our Section due to the low number of student members. We are encouraging students to join the IEEE and hopefully when there are enough members a student branch can be formed.

B.6 Awards & Recognition Activities

In the Shin-Etsu Section, we presented paper awards to students who presented papers at the IEEE Sessions at the IEICE Shin-Etsu Section Conference and the IEEJ Tokyo Section, Niigata Chapter Technical Meeting.
We also fanatically support to students who present papers at international conferences outside Japan.

B.7 Communication Activities

Our main method of communication with members in our section is via our Home Page. The URL of the English version is:

http://www.ieee-jp.org/section/shin-etsu/index-e.html

Our Home Page is updated whenever new information is available, which is typically every 1-2 months.

PART C - OTHERS

C.1 Relationship with National Societies

There are several Japanese professional societies such as the IEICE and IEEJ. Since many people are members of both the IEEE and one or both of the IEICE and IEEJ, it is our policy to work in cooperation with these societies to promote engineering in the Shin-Etsu region of Japan. To this end, we co-sponsor and co-organize many events.

PART D - GOALS AND PLANS

D.1 Continuation of Project/Activity in Progress and Their Implementation Plans

In 2014, we will continue to provide awards and aid to students as described above. Also, we try to organize technical meetings at each university in the Shin-Etsu region every year.

D.2 Goals and Future Plans

In the future, we plan to establish a chapter in our section and also a student branch. The relatively small number of members in our section is the main obstacle, so we must also think of ways to increase our membership.