

Communication Theory Technical Committee Meeting

ICC '99

June 8, 1999

Pan Pacific Hotel, Vancouver, BC, Canada

1. The meeting was called to order at 5:33 pm by Ender Ayanoglu. Ender gave brief updates on the new cabinet (Zeke Bar-Ness as Vice Chair, Lek Ariyavisitakul as Secretary, and Paul Kakaes as Treasurer), the committee web site (<http://www.comsoc.org/~comt>), and the member and mailing lists.

2. Conference Reports

ICC'99 (Vancouver, Canada, 6/6-6/10) (P. Ho, A. Yongacoglu, and G. Caire) Paul Ho reported that all the 7 and 1/2 sessions sponsored/co-sponsored by the committee went smoothly. These sessions are:

- 1) Multiuser Receivers and Interference Mitigation (7 papers)
- 2) Turbo Codes (7 papers)
- 3) Coding Techniques (8 papers)
- 4) Multicarrier and OFDM (4 papers)
- 5) Modulation and Coding I (8 papers)
- 6) Modulation and Coding II (8 papers; with Radio Communications)
- 7) Equalization and Synchronization (8 papers)
- 8) Performance Analysis (8 papers; with Personal Communications)

CTMC'8 (Vancouver, Canada, 6/6-6/10) (Y. Bar-Ness) was the first CTMC held at ICC. Zeke Bar-Ness, Technical Program Chair, reported that the mini-conference received 60 submissions and accepted 36 papers. Two reviews were received for each paper. Six sessions were formed and chaired by our committee members. There were 124 pre-registrants, and a total of 160 attendees, quite a success for the first CTMC at ICC!

GLOBECOM'99 (Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 12/5-12/9) (E. Biglieri, K. Chugg, and E. Esteves) is being organized as a collection of 9 symposia and a main (the regular) conference. Ezio Biglieri is the Chair of the Communication Theory Symposium. Our committee's representatives for the regular conference are Keith Chugg and Eduardo Esteves.

Information received from Ezio Biglieri was summarized. The Technical Program Committee members are: V. Cardoso, L. Cimini, M. Costa, A. Goldsmith, U. Mengali, M. Win, and H. Sari. 137 submissions were received. Overall the conference received 1200 submissions and the acceptance ratio has been set to be 40%. So the CT symposium expects to accept about 55 papers to form 8 sessions and possibly one additional.

A report was received from Ezio Biglieri after the meeting: There will be 9 sessions in the Communication Theory Symposium.

- Equalization (7 papers)
- Multiple-Antenna Systems (7 papers)
- Turbo Codes and Iterative Decoding I (8 papers)
- Multi-User Communications (8 papers)
- Coding and Shaping (7 papers)
- CDMA (7 papers)
- Modulation and Demodulation (8 papers)
- Fading Channels (7 papers)
- Turbo Codes and Iterative Decoding II (8 papers)

A report received from Keith Chugg after the meeting: The CTC reps received 73 submissions and have formed the following four tentative sessions (with the numbers of accepted/submitted papers indicated in parentheses):

- Receiver Processing, L. Rasmussen (8/22)
- Mobile Ad-Hoc Networks, A. K. Salkintzis and T. Mathiopoulos (8/22)
- Channel Modeling, Zeke Bar-Ness (7/13)
- Signal Design for Modern Communication Systems, Nam Phamdo (7/16)

ICC 2000 (New Orleans, Louisiana, 6/18-6/22) (S. Gelfand for CT Symposium and J. J. O'Reilly for Regular Conference) Jim Krogmeier reported for Saul Gelfand that currently there are 4 symposia in addition to the regular conference:

- 1) Enterprise Networking
- 2) Quality of Service

- 3) Communication Theory
- 4) Personal Communications

The Conference web site is being set up by Bell South. The deadline for papers and sessions is September 1. Electronic submission is encouraged.

There will be SAS (Services, Applications, Systems) sessions including panels, tutorials, and workshops. Some of the SAS sessions may be integrated into the symposia. There were no volunteers from our members for organizing SAS sessions, although everyone thinks this will benefit the committee. Possible SAS sessions were proposed:

- Software Radio
- Broadband Access Networks, H. Sari
- Wideband CDMA, F. Adachi

GLOBECOM 2000 (San Francisco, California, 11/27-12/1) (M. Win and G. Chrisikos) Moe Win reported that there were oppositions for having symposia at GLOBECOM 2000. The committee may need to send a complete proposal to Dale Harris, the Technical Program Chair of the Conference, for having a mini-conference approved. We should also lobby for overflowing rejected papers from the mini-conference to the regular conference.

ICC 2001 (Helsinki, Finland) Sergio Benedetto volunteered to be the General Chair of the CT Symposium and Khaled Ben Letaif volunteered to be the Technical Program Chair. The committee is looking for regular conference representatives.

MILCOM (G. Saulnier) Information received from our MILCOM rep Gary Saulnier: Our committee is sponsoring the following sessions for MILCOM '99 (Atlantic City, 10/31-11/3)

- Advanced Modulation Techniques
- Interference Suppression in Spread Spectrum
- Advanced Coding Techniques
- Multicarrier and OFDM Techniques
- Multi-user Detection
- Techniques for Fading/Multipath Channels I
- Techniques for Fading/Multipath Channels II

3. Workshop Reports

Workshop'99 (Aptos, California, 5/23-5/26) (C. Robertson, A. Goldsmith, and L. Cimini) Andrea Goldsmith reported that there were 5 sessions and 71 attendees with 20 guests. The technical program received good feedback (see recent Meeting Minutes of the Workshop). There was a follow-up discussion regarding the registration policy--whether to permit prorated fees according to time spent. There were comments regarding making the policy clear and resolving any conflicts prior to the Workshop, not after. The members generally felt that brief attendance is not appropriate for a focused workshop that encourages interactions, and such a partial payment policy would require some policing. There were suggestions to make every registrant pay the full registration fee. There was an argument to have invited speakers who would not be expected to pay in special situations. The issue was put to a motion and the members almost unanimously approved a strict policy that does not permit partial payment, but allows for exceptions in very special cases.

Workshop 2000 (Florida, 5/7-5/10) (D. Schilling, R. Pickholtz, and K. Dominiak) Workshop 2000 will be held at Grenelefe Resort, Central Florida (<http://www.grenelefe.com>). The room rates are \$89 (single), \$109 (1 bedroom suite), and \$198 (2 bedroom suite). Breakfast and dinner (but not lunch) will be included. A package deal for tennis may also be available.

Session and talk proposals should be sent to the Program Chair, Ray Pickholtz (pickholt@seas.gwu.edu).

Workshop 2001 will be the 30th Workshop! In the past, there was a big 20th Anniversary celebration during the Workshop in Ojai, California. The committee received the following proposal to organize Workshop 2001 from Texas A&M University.

- General Chair: S. Miller
- Technical Program: C. Georghiades
- Treasurer: X. Wang
- Local Arrangements: K. Narayanan
- Administrative: S. Simpson

-Location: most likely in Texas, but are open to finding a site in California or even Arizona or New Mexico.

There was a long discussion about the location. The participants expressed a strong interest in California for the location of this workshop.

4. Announcements

- Our committee was recertified by ComSoc on April 20, 1999.

- Summary of the TAC (Technical Activities Council) meeting:

- * There was a presentation on staff support issues. ComSoc has been relying on support from volunteers. However, with recent corporate restructuring in many organizations, some of these companies no longer recognize "free time" spent for IEEE activities. There were suggestions on how to increase the efficiency of the volunteer role, and a request for each committee to submit a recruitment description for all elected positions.
- * Co-sponsoring conferences will be limited to those ComSoc has financial interest in. The concern was that too many co-sponsorings would undercut ComSoc's flagship events.
- * The results of a recent survey of all committees were given.
- * The Technical Information Reference Committee (TIC) has been recently formed (in January 1999) to set up the ComSoc web site. TIC is seeking inputs from individual technical committees to specify hot areas and add details to the web site.

5. The minutes of the GLOBECOM '98 meeting of the Committee were approved.

6. The meeting adjourned at 6:35 PM.