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Minutes

IEEE Communications Society
Satellite and Space Communications (SSC) Technical Committee

Meeting at ICC 2005, Seoul, Korea
Wednesday 18 May 2005, 12:30 pm – 2:30 pm
COEX Intercontinental Hotel - Room Venus/30th Floor

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1. Introduction and welcome to new members (Chair, Abbas Jamalipour)
The meeting was called to order at 12.30 PM. 17 people were in attendance at this time. Abbas introduces the Committee and welcomes new members. He reminds that this committee facilitates technical exchange in the field of satellite and space communications and maintains a keen interest in the development and maintenance of standards in this area. It explores the evolution of new satellite and space-based systems and the application of new and emerging technologies. The current officers of the committee are:
Chair: Abbas Jamalipour
Vice Chair: Mario Marchese
Secretary: Michael Hadjitheodosiou
The Committee web site is: http://www.comsoc.org/socstr/org/operation/techcom/ssc/index.html

2. Approval of the proposed agenda.
The agenda of the meeting was presented and accepted.

3. Acceptance of Minutes of the Last Meeting at Globecom04 (Dallas) – (Chair, Abbas Jamalipour)
The minutes of the last meeting held at Globecom04 (Dallas) were presented and accepted.

4. Technical Program Committee (TPC) and Workshop reports:

(A) ICC 2005 (Seoul): Abbas Jamalipour
ICC 2005 is held under the theme of 'Towards the Era of Ubiquitous Networks.' The technical program will consist of General Conference, eight major Symposia, and Tutorials. The scope of ICC 2005 includes: Communications Quality and Reliability, Communications Software, Communications Switching & Routing, Communications Systems Integration & Modeling, Communication Theory, Computer Communications, Enterprise Networking, Gigabit Networking, Information Infrastructure, Interconnections in High-Speed Digital Systems, Internet, Multimedia Communications, Network Operations and Management, Optical Networking, Personal Communications, Radio Communications, Satellite and Space Communications, Signal Processing and Communications Electronics, Signal Processing for Storage, Tactical Communications, Transmission, Access and Optical Systems.
Abbas reminds that there was no special Symposium for Satellite Communications (the last was held at ICC 2002, New York) but that at least three symposia as well as the general conference were of interest for SSC people. NGNUS symposium and General Conference were co-sponsored by SSC TC.
–   Next Generation Networks for Universal Services
 o   Co-Chairs:
  ▪   Nelson Fonseca, University of Campinas, Brazil
  ▪   Abbas Jamalipour, University of Sydney, Australia
  ▪   Raouf Boutaba, University of Waterloo, Canada
  ▪   Heinrich Stuttgen, NEC Europe, Ltd, Germany
–   Symposium on Wireless Communication (concerning physical and data link layers)
 o   Co-Chairs:
  ▪   K.B. Lee, Seoul National University, Korea
  ▪   Mansoor Shafi, Telecom New Zealand, New Zealand
–   Wireless Networking
 o   Co-Chairs:
  ▪   Romano Fantacci, University of Florence, Italy
  ▪   Roberto Saracco, Telecom Italia Lab, Italy
–   General Conference
 o   Chair: Dan Keun Sung, KAIST, Korea

- o   Vice-Chairs :
  - ▪ Hyuck M. Kwon (Communications), Wichita State University, USA
  - ▪ Amitabh Mishra (Networks), Virginia Tech, USA

In particular the sessions of main interest for SSC people were:
- ▪ NG01 - Mobile Network Architectures and Services - Tuesday, 17 May, 10:50 am - 12:20 pm
- ▪ NG05 - TCP - Wednesday, 18 May, 10:50 am - 12:20 pm
- ▪ NG06: Satellite Services - Wednesday, 18 May, 02:00 pm - 03:30 pm
- ▪ NG10: Novel Schemes for Service Provisioning - Thursday, 19 May, 02:00 pm - 03:30 pm
- ▪ GC02: Resource Allocation - Tuesday, 17 May, 10:50 am - 12:20 pm
- ▪ MC02: Multimedia Coding and Transport over Wireless Networks I - Tuesday, 17 May, 02:00 pm - 03:30 pm

(B) Globecom 2005 (St. Louis): Abbas Jamalipour

Abbas reports: Globecom 2005 will be held at the Renaissance Grand Hotel, St. Louis, Missouri, USA, Nov. 28 – Dec. 2, 2005. The website is: http://www.globecom2005.com.The General Chair is Ann Miller; Technical Program Chair: Steve Watkins. There is no Symposium for Satellite Communication.

Abbas is chairing the "Wireless Communications Symposium (WCS)" whose Vice Chairs are: Nirwan Ansari, Chengshan Xiao, and Mostofa Howlader.

Globecom'05 received 1640 submissions and the distribution is given by

Wireless Communications	659 (38% of Globecom'05)
General Conference	277
Communication Theory	225
Signal Processing	151
Adv. Networks & Internet	119
Autonomic Internet	102
Photonic Technology	101
Computer & Network Security	89.

The Technical Program Chair suggested setting the acceptance rate to be ~45%, and the acceptance distribution would be given by

Wireless Communications	297
General Conference	113
Communication Theory	94
Signal Processing	62
Adv. Networks & Internet	46
Autonomic Internet	45
Photonic Technology	43
Computer & Network Security	40

WCS has three tracks related to PHY, NET, and SER/APP. There were around 150 active TPC members helping with the WCS. The review process has almost completed with each paper with 3+ review reports. Symposium level acceptance decision will be made by May 31, and the results will be sent between June 15 and June 30 to authors. There will be some Satellite focused sessions included in the WCS. During Globecom2005, there will be (for the first time) poster sessions, but the method of distributing the accepted papers into regular and poster sessions is still under discussion, but about 10% of accepted papers will be considered for poster presentation.

Also Sastri Kota communicates his proposed Workshop on Satellite at Globecom'05 and highlights the need of a Symposium description.

(C) ICC 2006 (Istanbul): Abbas Jamalipour

Abbas reports: The 2006 IEEE International Conference on Communications (ICC 2006) will be held in Istanbul, Turkey, on 11-15 June 2006. The technical program will feature 9 technical symposia disseminating the latest research and development results in communications and networking, and 12 executive panels and applications sessions, where industry leaders will address some of the hottest business and technical challenges for the future. In addition, the program will include a set of tutorials by internationally recognized experts, where students, researchers and practicing engineers can learn about new technologies and keep technically up-to-date in a fast changing world. It is also planned to have several workshops which will nicely complement the main body of the conference. ICC 2006 will thus feature a very rich technical program equally attracting academics and engineers from industry, network operators, and service providers.

Of special interest for SSC community is the Next Generation Mobile Networks (Co- Chairs: Abbas Jamalipour, Heinrich Stüttgen, Pascal Lorenz). Next Generation Mobile Networks Symposium will focus on all aspects of next generation mobile network architecture and try to gather the state-of-the art research activities in this important field. In particular it will address the evolution of today's Internet, the PSTN and third Generation Mobile Networks to a future multi-platform and multi-service ubiquitous network. It will focus on network architecture, protocols and service platforms, addressing areas such as the evolution towards 4G mobile networks, the integration of heterogeneous network technologies like fixed, mobile and satellite access, content distribution and streaming, QoS, multicasting and, operational aspects of next generation networks like management, charging and service provisioning. SSC TC members are encouraged to submit many papers on satellite communications to the NGMN symposium. Deadline will be 15 September 2005.

(D) Globecom 2006 (San Francisco): Abbas Jamalipour and Mario Marchese
Abbas reports that there will be a symposium proposed by SSC TC, titled: Symposium on Satellite & Space Communications. This symposium has been approved by the Globecom2006 O/C.
Abbas and Mario solicit SSC people to propose personally high quality scientific works to the Symposium. It is a great occasion for satellite community that should not be wasted.

(E) ICC 2007 (Glasgow): Abbas Jamalipour and Mario Marchese
Abbas and Mario report that there is not yet a firm structure for now. The present stage is proposal. The indications of the conference Chairs is to have seven/eight big Symposia supported by at least two/three Technical Committees. In this view, having a symposium on satellites is quite difficult. It is recommendable to join other Committees and to draw a Symposium proposal together with them.

(F) Other conferences / workshops
SSC has endorsed several conferences in the past six months:
- International Conference on Information and Communication Technologies: From Theory to Applications (ICTTA'06) to be held in Damascus, Syria on 24 - 28 April 2006. The conference web site is http://ictta.enst-bretagne.fr
- 11th KA and BROADBAND COMMUNICATIONS CONFERENCE / 23rd AIAA INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS SATELLITE SYSTEMS CONFERENCE (2005 JOINT CONFERENCE) - 25-28 September 2005, Aurelia Convention Centre, Rome, Italy
- IWSSC2005, Siena, Italy
- MILCOM2005, Oct. 17-21, Atlantic City, NJ (Sastri Kota)

Giovanni summarizes the contents and the organization details of IWSSC2005, thanking for the help of the SSC people managing reviews and tutorials. Mario highligths a very positive characteristics of IWSSC2005: it will have sessions completely dedicated to PhD students and young researchers, where they can present their works and discuss with the scientific community.
Abbas reports about the rules about sponsoring a conference by ComSoc TCs. Rules have been changed and ComSoc is increasing its role. While before, it was sufficient to contact the Chair of a TC who spreaded information among TC people asking for opinions, now the sponsorship proposal should be addressed directly to ComSoc on a designated form that will forward it to all TC Chairs asking for opinions. The procedure is more difficult than before because it might also imply a finantial support for future.
Sastri reports that he is in charge of Milcom 2007 (Orlando, Florida) that will be organized and sponsored by Harris Corporation. Sastri underlines that it can be a good opportunity for satellite communications to be there.

5. SSC Newsletter, Web site, Membership status, E-mail list (subscription, unsubscription): Mario Marchese
Mario reports that the new number of SSC Newsletter (vol. 15, n, 1) includes an additional section about "HOW TO JOIN SSC COMMITTEE AND MAILING LIST". Than, as usual, it contains "SSC COMMITTEE OFFICERS", the "MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR" (by Abbas) and "SCANNING THE WORLD" (by Mario). 150 colour copies of the letter have been distributed at ICC05. The pdf version is available in the web site. The paper titled "Polarization-Time Coding in Satellite Links" by István Frigyes and Péter Horváth (Budapest University of Technology and Economics) was selected this time for SSC Newsletter "PERSPECTIVE PAPER" (which is structured now by using the same format of IEEE Communications Letters). Mario personally thanks István for his precious contribution.
Mario solicits advices for web site improvement and communicates that there are approximately 180 SSC members. He also reminds the procedure for e-mail list subscription and unsubscription.

6. Technical Activities Committee (TAC) Report (Abbas Jamalipour)
- Abbas attended TAC meeting on morning of 18 May. One of the main topics of discussion during TAC meeting was the new method of co-sponsoring and technical sponsorship by the Communications Society. In the past, if only one TC sponsor a meeting, that meeting was technically sponsored by ComSoc. Since last year, conference organizers should first get the support from at least one TC and then apply (using ComSoc form) directly to ComSoc. Then the application will be forwarded to all TC Chairs and everyone can say yes, no, or doesn't say anything. If at least one TC accepts the application, then ComSoc will sponsor the conference. ComSoc wants to see future financial sponsorship in a conference if it is technically sponsored for the first time. Also each TC should limit the number of support each year. The conference should not have direct competition with current ComSoc conferences and the TC should have at least one member in the TPC of the conference.
  - TAC chair encouraged TCs to find ways to use their TC annual budget of $500 for each year.
  - TCs are encouraged to nominate people for IEEE Fellow and Distinguished Lecturer program if they know someone eligible.
  - Standard committee of ComSoc adopt the 1900 series.

7. Distinguished contributions to Satellite Communications Award Nominations: Abbas Jamalipour
Abbas reminds that:
This award aims to promote research and development activities in the area of satellite communications within the industry and academia research community. The award is established as part of the Satellite and Space Communications Technical Committee activities in involvement in the new and revolutionary developments taking place in the field. The SSC TC is governed by the constitution and bylaws of the IEEE and the IEEE Communications Society. The award also aims to motivate the increase in the number of research publications in the field as well as number of researchers in this field and the TC membership.
One award will be given in each calendar year. If no suitable candidate is proposed in a given year, the award will not be presented for that year. The award will be announced and given during the IEEE GLOBECOM conference. The first award will be presented in the GLOBECOM2001 conference in San Antonio, Texas to be held in November 2001.
Abbas summarizes the eligibility criterion: an individual researcher or a team of researchers, who has met the following criteria, may be nominated or may apply for receiving the award:
1. Must be an IEEE Communications Society Member at the time of application.
2. Must have research related to the field of satellite and space communications; including research involving any layer of the network stack.
3. Must have a good track of record in research in the field of telecommunications but not necessarily in the satellite field.
4. Must have significant contribution in the field in the form of one or both of the followings: publication of one book, or one book chapter, or one journal paper, or one international conference paper, or a significant patent received in the field of the satellite communications during the year immediately prior to the award year. The journal paper and the international conference paper must be peer reviewed based on full paper submission. The publications are not required to be within the IEEE journals and conferences but must be published in high-level publications, as defined by the award selection committee.
5. Must be ready to attend the GLOBECOM conference in the year of award. In case the selected person for the award cannot attend the conference, a representative must be nominated to receive the award at least four weeks before the conference date or the award will be given to the second person who has been selected by the award committee as the reserved.
All applications must be sent to the SSC TC Secretary by the closing date of July 15th of the year of prize. The deadline for 2005 SSC Award Nominations is fixed to 15th July, 2005.
The applications could be from individual researchers or a team of researchers on a self-nomination basis, or nomination by other people. The application must include a letter of application (or nomination) and any document showing that the application has met the award eligibility criteria and any other support.
A selection committee consisting of SSC TC officers (Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary) and two other SSC TC members nominated by the SSC TC Chair will decide about the applications in mid-October each year. If an application is received from one of member of the committee, the SSC TC Chair will allocate a replacement. The committee will select two applications, one as the main and the second as the reserved. The selected main application will be informed soon after that by the SSC Secretary together with a letter of award offer. The selected application must accept the offer (including condition 5 of eligibility) or the offer will be sent to the reserved application.

8. Any Other Business
Mario reminds the recent call-for-papers of Computers and Electrical Engineering Journal (Elsevier), Special Issue on "Recent Advances in Wireless Networks and Systems". Co-guest-Editors: Prof. Mohammad S. Obaidat and Prof. Mario Marchese. As clear from the call-for-papers, satellites will receive a great deal of attention.

9. Time and Place of Next Meeting (Abbas Jamalipour).
Globecom 2005, St. Louis, MO, USA. Time/date: TBD, tentatively, the second day of technical sessions.

10. Adjourn
The meeting adjourned at 2.30 PM.

Attendance (27 total)

Name	E-mail	Affiliation
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