
Title: Minutes of CISTC Meeting Held at ICC '08 (Version 1.0)
Date: May 20, 2008; 7:30 – 10:00 am
Place: Room No. 4, Crowne Plaza Hotel, Beijing, China
Contact: Peter Mueller pmu@zurich.ibm.com

1 Welcome / Introduction

Among the attendees were Stamatios Kartalopoulos the Committee Chair and Hsiao-Hwa Chen the Vice Chair. Peter Mueller the Committee Secretary was unable to come to Beijing, but Wen Tao Zhu from Chinese Academy of Sciences volunteered to take the secretarial work, and got a lot of help from Yi Qian from US NIST.

Stamatios gave some opening remarks on the success and growth of the committee, which was just 2 years and 2 months new. The committee meeting is held twice a year, at ICC and Globecom, respectively. At the last meeting (Globecom 2007), which was 6 months before, the membership was around 350. The current membership is nearly 800, and by the end of the year it may grow to more than 1000.

Future work may include creating subcommittees in CISTC and electing new officers, as it was the last term for Stamatios to be the committee chair.

We then moved to the agenda.

14 committee members attended the meeting:

Stamatios Kartalopoulos	kartalopoulos@ou.edu
Hsiao-Hwa Chen	hshwchen@ieee.org
Abderrahim Benslimane	abderrahim.benslimane@univ-avignon.fr
Yi Qian	yqian@nist.gov
Ashraf Matrawy	amatrawy@sce.carleton.ca
Jelena Misic	jmisic@cs.umanitoba.ca
Jiankun Hu	jiankun@cs.rmit.edu.au
Yunghsian Han	yshan@mail.ntpu.edu.tw
Yingfei Dong	yingfei@hawaii.edu
Dijiang Huang	dijiang@asu.edu
Cheng-Xiang Wang	cheng-xiang.wang@hw.ac.uk
Wen Tao Zhu	wtzhu@ieee.org
Kui Wu	wkui@cs.uvic.ca
Vojislav Misic	vmisic@cs.umanitoba.ca

2 Approval of Agenda

The agenda was unanimously approved.

3 Approval of Meeting Minutes (at Globecom '07)

The minutes were unanimously approved.

4 Report on Conference Activities

Stamatios reported on several conference activities, and encouraged other members to participate. As a result, near the end of the meeting, many attendees volunteered to help with the technical program, and/or they nominated their colleagues/friends.

Globecom 08

The conference is to be held in New Orleans, and the preparations are at the final stage.

Globecom 09

To be held in Hawaii.

These people would like to help with the technical program: A. Benslimane, Stamatios Kartalopoulos, Qingming Ma, Guenter Schaefer.

Globecom 10

To be held in Miami.

These people would like to help with the technical program: Kejie Lu, Ashraf Matrawy, Dijiang Huang, Yingfei Dong.

ICC 08

The Security Symposium turned out to be a success.

162 submissions were received, 47 were accepted as oral presentations (organized into 8 sessions), and 12 were accepted as posters (organized into 2 sessions). Therefore, in all 59 papers were accepted, and the acceptance ratio, 36.4%, was very close to other technical symposiums.

ICC 09

To be held in Dresden.

These people would like to help with the technical program: P. Mueller, Jiankun Hu, Boutaba, Gritzalis.

The conference is calling for TPC members; 250 members are expected.

ICC 10

To be held in CapeTown.

These people would like to help with the technical program: Pramode Verma, A. Benslimane, Yunghsiang Han.

CCNC 08

Was held in Las Vegas.

Stamatios read an Email, which was the report from Peter Reiher: “Under the auspices of CISTC, Peter Reiher organized a special track for CCNC 08 (Consumer Communications and Networking Conference) on security issues for consumer networks. 39 papers were submitted to this track, of which 17 were accepted, for a 43% acceptance rate, lower than the overall conference rate of 47%. The papers covered topics ranging from botnets and CAPTCHA technology to key distribution and secure virtualization.

Milcom 08

To be held in San Diego.

Although a few years ago, only one or two sessions were allocated to security, nowadays security makes up a large component (about a half) of the conference.

Yi Qian mentioned that Kejie Lu had organized the “Information Assurance and Security Track” for Milcom 07, which was in Orlando, FL, October 2007. The Information Assurance and Security Track included 6 sessions and 40 accepted papers. Yi Qian was the Track Chair for “Wireless and Sensor Networks Track” of Milcom 08, which had 14 sessions and more than 90 accepted papers.

Kejie Lu will be the Track Chair again for “Information Assurance and Security Track” for Milcom 08, and Yi Qian will organize a session related to wireless security in Milcom 08. Stamatios appreciated this work, and again encouraged more people to be involved.

OFCNFOEC 09

Calling for proposals.

CISTC can get involved in, say, security in optical network management.

Infocom 08

Wen Tao Zhu noted that Infocom is no longer a joint conference of the IEEE Computer and Communications Societies, and it has been sponsored by ComSoc alone in recent years. However, many attendees disagreed that, and believed that the security sessions in Infocom is mainly under the control of the Computer Society (instead of ComSoc).

Infocom’s structure is different from that of ICC. For example, it has a large (and general) TPC list, and there are no symposiums.

Yi Qian pointed out that in the just held Infocom 08, there were several security related sessions. Therefore, CISTC needs to get more involved.

Jiankun Hu would like to help with the technical program of Infocom 09.

Other Conferences

Stamatios noted that SecureComm is very close to our TC, but it is not an IEEE conference. Once CISTC can get involved, our influence should turn out to be very positive. Such an initiative would be a very valuable, as we can always bring feedbacks to the communications society. We might set our goal as to start co-sponsoring the conference.

Hsiao-Hwa Chen pointed out that WCNC is also a conference where our TC can get more spotlight. Moreover, it is one of the major ComSoc conferences.

We need to create a web page to provide the TC members with a list of all related activities so as to encourage more involvement. Stamatios is looking for people to bring all the information to table so that everybody can see what is and will be happening.

5 Education

Our committee needs to perform more educational activities, such as running tutorials or short courses at conferences.

Yi Qian just gave a tutorial at ICC 2008, on security and dependability of networked information systems (TU13) the day before. He also gave one tutorial on wireless network security at VTC 2008 Spring in Singapore about ten days before.

As to publishing books or writing book chapters, Stamatios indicated that we are doing a very good job.

6 Webpage (by Camille Gaspard and Shengli Fu)

The committee webpage is up and running on ComSoc website, thanks to the efforts of Camille Gaspard and Shengli Fu.

The work that has been done by the members for our committee (e.g., organizing a conference symposium) may be overwhelming, and thus we would like to hear the names of these contributors. If anyone has done a job, he/she should send that to Camille such that the information maintained on the webpage (like a spreadsheet) can be up to date.

7 CISTC Logo

Stamatios reported the suggestion from Peter Mueller the CISTC Secretary. That is, we can add a key-like symbol to the ComSoc logo to form our committee logo.

8 E-mail Exploder (cistc@comsoc.org)

The email exploder cistc@comsoc.org has been working for some time. However, Stamatios emphasized that he would like to discuss this for a moment, as it's a property of IEEE ComSoc, and thus one should never just use it for any arbitrary purpose. For example, one may want to use it to advertise for a conference. But the bottom line here is that the conference has to be an IEEE conference. The rule of usage has to comply with the IEEE ComSoc.

9 TC Membership

CISTC started with only 25 members. But the current membership is about 740 (at Globecom 07 half a year ago it was 347). Our goal by the end of this year is 1000. CISTC is open to all people interested in the scope of the committee. Everyone is encouraged to spread the word. For example, tell the colleagues about the committee, so that more will join.

One does not necessarily need to be a ComSoc member to join the committee, unless he/she intends for an officer position. However, a CISTC member should at least be an IEEE member.

The restriction is that, we do not have a budget to cover all meetings. So, discussion has to be brought to the CISTC meeting at ICC or Globecom. Please bring creative proposals to these meetings for approval.

10 Special Issues of Journals

Kartalopoulos, Chen, Freire, He, and Verma, just organized a feature topic on security in mobile ad hoc and sensor networks in the IEEE Communications Magazine (part 1 in Feb 2008, and part 2 in April 2008). We are also looking for proposals for new special issues in the Magazine.

We need to continue work on JSAC submissions, as the progress is not so significant. We may also work on non-IEEE journals.

11 IEEE Transactions on Security

Stamatios reported some progress, and pointed out that it takes time. We have to start first with a very good proposal, and all transactions started from the same situation. A deadline should be set at next meeting for the transaction proposal.

12 Standards

Although it seems that without standards we cannot do anything, Stamatios mentioned that we did not have many ideas on this issue. However, Stamatios pointed out that we do not necessarily need to create standards; we can just hook into the standards committee, bring the issues and/or discussions here (to the CISTC meeting), and then back to the standards committee.

13 Testbeds

Not much was addressed.

14 New Business

Nothing new.

15 Next F2F Meeting

The next meeting will be held at Globecom 08 in New Orleans. Only about two weeks before that can the arrangement (time? room?) be determined. However, anything can change before the last minute, just like the current meeting (the starting time was unexpectedly changed from 19:30 to 7:30, which resulted in that many were unable to be attend).

16 Miscellaneous

We discussed the possibility of interim localized meetings via conference calls or in person, but I explained that there is no budget for it to cover incidental expenses. Also that at such meetings only recommendations can be made for discussion at the regular CISTC meeting.

Remark: In our CISTC letter of March 2008 this was addressed as follows:

CISTC will support local meetings in conjunction with IEEE conferences which organize a security related track or workshop. The purpose of such local meetings is the advancement of our technical committee, and technical discussions about local topics, requirements, policies, standards, conferences etc. relating to the CISTC. However, there are a few prerequisites for the organization and execution of such a meeting:

- The meeting has to be open to every IEEE member.
- The meeting requires at least three CISTC members (a chair and two co-chairs).
- There will be no financial support.
- The agenda has to be approved by the CISTC (Chair, Vice Chair, or Secretary).

- Four weeks in advance, the agenda of the meeting has to be distributed to all CISTC members via cistc@comsoc.org.
- The meeting minutes in PDF format has to be sent to the website coordinator within four weeks after the meeting. The minutes will be published on our website under section *Meetings*.

We also agreed to create a table of all CISTC activities and who is doing what. Jiankun Hu offered to evaluate methods to install an automated list server with access for all CISTC members.

17 Final Remarks

Before adjourn, Stamatios thanked the attendees, and expressed that he would like the meeting to be more conversational. Then there were more remarks and free discussions.

Jiankun Hu proposed that conference involvement and other activities would better be communicated at a more related level (e.g., the Infocom technical committee, or other IEEE organizations). Hsiao-Hwa indicated that it is important to get a contact first. Stamatios would like to advise Infocom to include more TPC members from ComSoc CISTC, and suggested that we may even go outside of IEEE/ComSoc conferences, e.g., technically participate in conferences sponsored by Springer or Wiley. Jiankun Hu also indicated that free software solutions can be employed to maintain the committee webpage, and that he would like to help.

Stamatios talked back to the 14th item, new business. He raised a question: Do we need to organize subcommittees? For example, we can create one on optical network, and more vice chairs can be elected. We can also create more offices to facilitate more activities, since we have many people and we can do many things. How much we can do and how much we can influence the communications community depend on our own.

The meeting ended right before 10:00 in the morning.

Peter Mueller, June 10, 2008.