

IEEE Communications Society
eHealth Technical Committee Meeting
IEEE GLOBECOM 2023

Held on Wednesday December 6th, 2023 16:00 – 17:00 during IEEE GLOBECOM 2023, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

Chaired by Prof. Andrea Sciarrone, eHealth TC Chair

Meeting's Agenda

The Chair shows the meeting's agenda:

1. Welcome, Agenda and TC structure
2. Minutes of Previous TC meeting
3. TC Officers & Upcoming Elections
4. TC Newsletter
5. TC Special Interest Groups
6. TC involved Journal/Magazine publications
7. Conference, Symposia and Workshop Report
8. eHealth TC Awards
9. Other Business?
10. Adjourn

1. Welcome, Agenda and TC structure

The Chair welcomes the new eHealth TC members and illustrates the meeting agenda.
The Chair also presents the TC structure and officers.

2. Minutes of Previous TC Meeting

The Chair shows the last eHealth TC meeting minutes (held virtually on Wednesday May 10th 2023, 08:30 – 11:00 (EDT) before IEEE ICC 2023, Rome, Italy). The minutes is publicly available on the eHealth TC website here: https://site.ieee.org/com-ehealth/files/2023/12/Minute_ICC_2023.pdf.

Prof. Andrea Sciarrone moves the previous minutes approval. Prof. Stefano Giordano seconds the approval. No one abstains or casts a contrary vote so the IEEE ICC 2023 minutes are unanimously approved.

3. TC Officers and Upcoming Elections

Prof. Sciarrone introduces the Officers' election process. The election has been handled by the Nomination & Election (N&E) committee, supervised by the TC Chair:

- Prof. Hsi-Pin Ma (former eHealth TC Chair), Taiwan
- Prof. Shiwen Mao (IEEE Healthcom Steering Committee Chair), USA
- Prof. Honggang Wang (eHealth TC Chair), USA

Full election rules are available at: <https://ehealth.committees.comsoc.org/policy/>.

Prof. Sciarrone has confirmed that the organization of the TC is based on a shifting process, where the Vice Chair becomes the Chair, and the Secretary becomes the Vice Chair. The serving period of Prof. Andrea Sciarrone as a Chair is coming to an end by December 31st, 2023, and this is the last year for Prof. Sciarrone as the Chair.

Starting from January 2024, the new Chair will be Prof. Christos Verikoukis, and the new Vice Chair will be Prof. Ayman Radwan.

The election for the Secretary position took place virtually and anonymously, adopting a secret eVote procedure monitored and screened by IEEE ComSoc, which concluded on November 30th 2023.

Only TC Voting Members (excluded Student Members) can candidate for the Secretary position and only TC Voting Members can cast a vote.

The Chair highlights that a Member is any IEEE ComSoc member who is in a good state and who subscribe to the eHealth-TC mailing list as it is specified on the eHealth-TC Web page; a Voting Member is a Member who attended at least (physically) 2 face to face meetings during the last 2 years before election (not including the meeting during which the election happens).

The election process has occurred through the eVoting procedure:

- The vote and the voting list is secret
- The Chair has appointed two people from ComSoc handling and supervising the election process: Cyn Sikora, Vinoo Mathew
- The elections are valid if received a majority (simple or 2/3, depending on the motion type) of all of the voting members of the assembly

There were two candidates for the Secretary position:

- Chiara Garibotto
- Shamim Hossain

Both candidates proposed for the role publicly via email. The Chair confirms that they are both voting and active members of our TC, good-status members of Communication Society. They both satisfy the criteria for being a Technical Committee member and a Voting Member. Their profile, along with their statements and their major eHealth-based accomplishments, have been carefully evaluated by the N&E which has approved their candidatures.

The Chair announces the new elected eHealth TC Secretary:

- Chiara Garibotto

Hence, the new officers in charge from January 2024 will be:

- Chair: Prof. Christos Verikoukis
- Vice Chair: Prof. Ayman Radwan
- Secretary: Prof. Chiara Garibotto

4. TC Newsletter

The Chair introduced the TC newsletter and thanked Dr. Nada Philip for her efforts in maintain the newsletter. The last release of the newsletter was very recent: October 2023. The newsletter can be found at: <https://site.ieee.org/com-ehealth/files/2023/10/e-Health-TC-Newsletter-Oct-2023.pdf>. The chair illustrated the contents of the newsletter, and asked for contributions from the members.

2023 ComSoc TC Innovation Support

The Chair introduces the 2023 ComSoc TC Innovation Support, from the last TC Board Meeting, whose purpose is to *“incubate, nourish, and grow breakthrough innovations in communications technologies, this project aims to offer incentive fund to Technical Committees (TC), Special Interest Group (SIG), and Emerging Technologies Initiatives (ETI) to provide original and revolutionary ideas, concepts, techniques, methods and solutions that may lead to the breakthrough in communications technologies.”*

The Chair briefly describes how to access the ComSoc TC Innovation Support:

- \$50,000 has been approved by the BoG
- a subcommittee will be appointed by VP TEA consisting of BoG & FinCom members, current or past TC Chairs
- up to 10 proposals will be selected from TC/SIG/ETI submitted proposals, and each selected proposal will be funded by \$5,000
- supported expenses include travel, support for organizing workshop, seminar, etc.

The Chair shows a report of the first *IEEE ComSoc eHealth TC Ph.D. School*, organized by the Chair himself in November in Genoa, Italy. The main features of the School:

- 5 Keynote Speeches held by distinguished members of our TC (Shiwen Mao, Damla Turgut)
- many talks also from industry, research centers and Italian universities.
- almost 15 hours of frontal lessons (in person) with a final test.
- demo/Poster session for PhD students (including award)
- no fee required thanks to IEEE ComSoc support

2023 ComSoc TC Campaign Video Project

The Chair also introduces the ComSoc TC Campaign Video Project, also from the last TC Board Meeting. The purpose of the campaign is to make members and the public aware of what our technical committees are doing and how they guide the high-interest initiatives in communication technology by making a short video about 1-2 minutes for each TC. Finally, 3 or 5 best videos will be selected among 26 TCs for the TC Video Award. The estimated budget is \$30000, about \$1000 per TC.

The goals are to provide an enhanced experience and membership recruitment and retention opportunities, to increase member recruitment and engagement and to promote TCs and TCs' research and innovations.

This project will be hopefully funded again in 2024.

5. TC Special Interest Groups

The Chair lists the eHealth TC Special Interest Groups (SIGs):

- *Smart and connect health*
 - ChunSheng Xin (cxin@odu.edu)
 - Sabah Mohammed (sabah.mohammed@lakeheadu.ca)
- *Big data for e-Health*
 - Jinan Fiadhi (jfiadhi@lakeheadu.ca)
- *Blockchain for e-Health*
 - Simon Fong (ccfong@umac.mo)
- *AI for e-Health*
 - M. Shamim Hossain (hamim.hosssain@ieee.org)
- *IoT for e-Health*
 - Sudip Misra (smisra@sit.iitkgp.ernet.in)

The 5 groups are very active, and the community really appreciates that.

The representative members of the SIGs physically present at the meeting illustrated the recent updates and the work carried out within the respective SIGs.

Prof. Arijit Roy (on behalf of Prof. Sudip Misra, not physically present) illustrated the activities carried out within the *IoT for eHealth* SIG.

Prof. Shamim Hossain introduced the activities carried out within the *AI for e-Health* SIG.

The chair thanked all SIGs for their contributions and efforts.

6. TC involved Journal/Magazine publications

The Chair invited members to share their SIs, and their involvement in journals or organization of conferences. If any member is preparing a SI or other related initiatives, the TC can help publicizing for that, in addition to help with finding co-chair and co-organizers.

The Chair also presents available and upcoming opportunities for publications:

- **IEEE GLOBECOM 2024**
 - eHealth Track, SAC Symposium
 - Deadline: To be announced
- **IEEE HEALTHCOM 2024**
 - Single track
 - Deadline: To be announced

7. Conference, Symposia and Workshop Report

The Chair presents updates related to conference activities.

- **IEEE GLOBECOM 2023**
 - Dec, 4-8, 2023, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
 - Representative: Andrea Sciarrone, University of Genoa, Italy
 - 47 papers received, 19 accepted (40% acceptance rate)
- **IEEE ICC 2024**
 - June, 9 - 13, 2024, Denver, CO, United States
 - TPC Chair: Fatima Domingues, Khalifa University (Biomedical Engineering), UAE
 - 41 papers received (expected 16/17 papers accepted)
- **IEEE GLOBECOM 2024**
 - Dec, 8-12, 2024, Cape Town, South Africa
 - Representative: Hongyang Chen, Hangzhou Institute for Advanced Study, China, M. Shamim Hossain, King Saud University, Saudi Arabia
- **IEEE ICC 2025**
 - 8 - 14 June 2025, Montreal QC, Canada
 - Representative: Ayan Mondal, Indian Institute of Technology Indore

8. eHealth TC Awards

The Chair announced the annual awards of the IEEE eHealth TC:

- Best Conference Paper Award: Matilde Rocha; Hao Ran Chi; Nélia Alberto; Paulo André; Paulo Antunes; Ayman Radwan; M. Fátima Domingues, "*QoE-Aware Edge-Assisted Machine Learning-Based Fall Detection and Prediction with FBGs*," ICC 2023 - IEEE International Conference on Communications, Rome, Italy, 2023, pp. 852-857, doi: 10.1109/ICC45041.2023.10278661.
- Best Journal Paper Award: N. Y. Philip, J. J. P. C. Rodrigues, H. Wang, S. J. Fong and J. Chen, "*Internet of Things for In-Home Health Monitoring Systems: Current Advances, Challenges and Future Directions*," in IEEE Journal on Selected Areas in Communications, vol. 39, no. 2, pp. 300-310, Feb. 2021, doi: 10.1109/JSAC.2020.3042421.
- Outstanding Leadership Award: Honggang Wang, *Former eHealth TC Chair, Former MM TC Chair, Previous IEEE IoT-J EiC.*
- Distinguished Service Award: Nada Y. Philip, *Newsletter representative, IEEE ComSoc Student Competition representative, Very active member of our TC.*

9. Other Business

IEEE Senior Member/Fellow Elevation

The Chair illustrates the IEEE Senior Member/Fellow Elevation:

- Fatima Domingues, 2023, IEEE Senior Member
- Chiara Garibotto, 2023, IEEE Senior Member

10. Adjourn

Being no other business to discuss, the meeting is concluded.

Attendees List

The attendance is taken by signing the attendance sheet.

1. Andrea Sciarrone, University of Genoa, Italy
2. Arijit Roy, Indian Institute of Technology, Patna, India
3. Md Abdur Rahman, University of Prince Mugrin, Madina, KSA
4. Shamim Hossain, King Saud University, Saudi Arabia
5. Wenzhan Song, University of Georgia, USA
6. Chiara Garibotto, University of Genoa, Italy
7. Melissa Torres, IEEE
8. Stefano Giordano, University of Pisa, Italy
9. Ahmed Mehaoua, University of Paris Cité, France
10. Tomoaki Ohtsuki, Keio University, Japan
11. Kun Yang, University of Essex, UK
12. Damla Turgut, University of Central Florida, USA
13. Baek-Young Choi, University of Missouri – Kansas City, USA