

IEEE ComSoc Society Radio Communications Committee (RCC)

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Minutes for the meeting held on November 29, 2022 IEEE GLOBECOM 2022, Virtual Conference

1. Introduction

The Committee Chair Jemin Lee opens the Radio Communications Committee (RCC) meeting at 2:00 pm GMT. There are 52 members present, and a list of participants is attached at the end of these minutes. Then, the Committee Chair presents the agenda:

1. Welcome
2. Approval of agenda
3. General information about RCC
4. Approval of ICC'22 RCC meeting minutes (available on the website)
5. Conferment of 2022 IEEE ComSoc RCC Technical Recognition Award
6. Report on RCC special interest groups (SIGs)
7. Report on conference/workshop/standardization activities
8. Report on "Communication Technology Changing the World" student competition
9. Report on RCC Activities
10. Introduction of new RCC officers' candidates
11. Next RCC meeting
12. Adjourn

2. Approval of the Agenda

The agenda is approved.

3. General Information about RCC

The Chair reviews the mission and the goals of the RCC and then she overviews general information about RCC (current officers, meetings, how to become an RCC member). She also reminds the difference between “member” and “active member”.

4. Approval of IEEE ICC’22 RCC Meeting Minutes

The minutes (circulated via RCC website) are approved.

5. Conferment of 2022 IEEE ComSoc RCC Technical Recognition Award

The Chair reviews the scope of the award, as follows: the RCC Technical Recognition Award aims to promote radio communications research and development activities in both the academic and industrial community. This award is established as part of the RCC activities in which research and development takes place in areas related to radio communications. The award recognizes members of the IEEE ComSoc who have made outstanding contributions to the technological advancement of radio communications.

The Chair points out that the Award Committee 2021-2022 has the following composition:

- Hanna Bogucka (Chair)
- Jack Winters
- Marco Chiani
- Hyundong Shin
- Julian Cheng

The 2022 IEEE ComSoc RCC Technical Recognition Award is conferred to Prof. Naofal Al-Dhahir “for outstanding contributions to radio communication systems”. Prof. Al-Dhahir gives a short speech thanking the committee for this recognition.

6. Report on RCC Special Interest Groups (SIGs)

The Vice-Chair presents the four existing RCC special interest groups. Each SIG presents the most recent activities, as reported in the following. More details about these activities are available in the meeting slides.

Wireless Localization SIG

The Vice-Chair invites Dr. Stefania Bartoletti, the Chair of the Wireless Localization SIG to report about the SIG activities. Dr. Bartoletti describes the activities of the Wireless Localization SIG and presents the SIG officers. She explains the general goal of the SIG and then presents the most recent activities carried out by the SIG. They include:

- Organization of the Workshop on Localization and Sensing with Intelligent Surfaces for 6G Networks at IEEE VTC-Spring 2022 Workshop;
- Organization of the 2nd Workshop on Synergies of Communication, Localization, and Sensing towards 6G at IEEE ICC 2023, Rome, Italy;
- Workshop on Near-Field Localization and Communication for 6G at IEEE ICC 2023, Rome, Italy;

- Editing of the Wiley-IEEE Book: “Positioning and Location-based Analytics in 5G and Beyond”, whose publication is expected at mid 2023.

Propagation Channels for 5G and Beyond SIG

The Vice-Chair invites Prof. Dajana Cassioli, the Vice-Chair of the Propagation Channels for 5G and Beyond SIG to report about the SIG activities. Prof. Cassioli reviews both the motivation and the goals of the SIG, presents the SIG officers, and then presents the main activities carried out by the SIG. They include:

- Liaison with NIST mmWave channel alliance: comparison of different high-resolution parameter extraction methods; work on “best practices” for sounder calibration.
- Liaison with new ComSoc level group for standardization of channel models for Beyond 5G: Organized in 6 different subgroups associated with one of the most relevant use cases for today’s channel modeling activities.
- Liaison with the IEEE SA WG P2982 on Millimeter-Wave Channel Sounder Verification: the verification results may be used to identify and correct shortcomings in channel sounder performance and/or post- processing techniques, or to give confidence that a given set of channel measurement data is suitable for inclusion in a pooled database.

Integrated Sensing and Communications SIG

The Vice-Chair invites Dr. Tingting Zhang, the Chair of the Integrated Sensing and Communications SIG to report about the SIG activities. Dr. Tingting Zhang presents the SIG officers and points out the SIG motivation and interests. The SIG is very interested in industrial collaborations, including the standard contributions, prototype implementations, etc. Dr. Zhang then overviews the most recent activities of the SIG. They include:

- Organization of the special issue on “Integration of radar sensing, localization and communications (ISLC)” in the EURASIP J. on Wireless Communications and Networking;
- Organization of the half day workshop on “Localization and Sensing with Intelligent Surfaces for 6G Networks” at 2022 VTC Fall.
- Organization of Feature Topics on “Location Awareness for 5G and Beyond” in IEEE Communications Magazine.

Terahertz Communications SIG

The Vice-Chair invites Dr. Hina Tabassum, the Chair of the Terahertz Communications SIG, to report about the SIG activities. Dr. Tabassum presents the SIG officers. She explains that the goal of the SIG is to become the unifying forum of discussion for all the aspects relating to THz communications, from device technologies to radio propagation and communication systems design. She then reviews the SIG activities, that include:

- Many hosted online seminars on THz communications (8 at the moment);
- Organization of several tutorials and short courses at main IEEE conferences such as PIMRC, WCNC, VTC;
- Organization of the special issue “Advanced Signal Processing for Terahertz Communications in 6G and Beyond Networks”, in IEEE J. on Selected Topics in Signal Processing, 2022;

- Organization of the Sixth IEEE International Workshop on Terahertz Communications, at IEEE Globecom 2022.

7. Report on Conference/Workshop/Standardization Activities

The secretary presents the report on the RCC sponsored conferences/workshops. The report for each specific conference/workshop is available in the slides that can be downloaded from the RCC website. Conferences/workshops and the corresponding RCC representatives are listed below (interested people can check with the meeting slides for further details):

- GC 2022: Theodoros Tsiftsis (WC), Enrico Paolini (CT)
- ICC 2023: Chun-Hung Liu (M&WN), Dajana Cassioli (C&ISS), Yik-Chung Wu (SPC), Haesik Kim (CT), Sudharman Jayaweera (CR&AI-EN)
- GC 2023: Zehui Xiong (M&WN), Giovanni Geraci (WC), Chong Han (SAC–THz)

No critical aspects emerge from the presented report. The Secretary also presents the report on standardization activities. RCC members participate actively to several standardization initiatives promoted by the IEEE, including ComSoc Standards Development Board, IEEE Dynamic Spectrum Access Networks Standards Committee, Power Line Communications Standards Committee, Virtualized and Software Defined Networks and Services Standards Committee, Mobile Communication Networks Standards Committee. Details about such activities are available in the slides that can be downloaded from the RCC website. People interested in being involved in these activities may refer to the RCC Standards Liaison Officer Dr. George Chrisikos or to the RCC officers.

8. Report on “Communication Technology Changing the World” Student Competition

Dr. TingTing Zhang, the RCC representative, presents the Communication Technology May Change the World Student Competition 2022. He first reviews the scope of this student competition promoted by IEEE ComSoc. The competition recognizes students or teams of students who demonstrate the capacity to improve the lives of people, through the application of communication technology and the development of projects that meet the human needs of people. The number of eligible submissions is first reviewed: 68 in 2022, 53 in 2021, 54 in 2020, 51 in 2019, 33 in 2018, 23 in 2017, 36 in 2016, 34 in 2015, 42 in 2014, and 30 in 2013. Concerning 2022, submissions were received from 24 countries around the world, as follows: 21 from India, 8 from China, 5 from Pakistan, 4 from Kenya and Russia, 3 from US, Spain, Italy, and Ecuador. In 2022, hot topics of the proposals were Intelligent Transportations and Autonomous Vehicles (9/68), AI in Communications (7/68), Internet of Things (6/68), Radio positioning (4/68), Reconfigurable Intelligent Surface (3/68).

Dr. Zhang then explains the review process, composed of two different stages, and mentions the projects that received the first and the second prize, as follows:

- First Prize: “The Owl: An Accessible Immersive Telepresence System for the Future of Human Communication”, Gonzalez Diego, Universidad Carlos III de Madrid, Spain.

- Second Prize: “Internet of Bodies: Digital Holistic Healthcare”, Alamoudi Abeer, KAUST, Saudi Arabia.

9. Report on RCC Activities

The Chair presents the report on RCC activities. Regarding GLOBECOM and ICC symposia chair nominations, she reminds that deadline for the call for nomination for GLOBECOM 2024 is today (November 29, 2022). The Chair highlights that self-nomination is allowed.

Chair remarks that RCC endorses several conferences every year but that the conference should be relevant to the scope of the RCC. Interested people may contact the RCC officers to obtain support from the RCC. The Chair also reminds that, to request IEEE Fellowship Endorsement from the RCC, it is necessary to contact the RCC officers.

Concerning ComSoc Distinguished Lecturer Nomination, the Chair explains that the next deadline for nominations will be in September 2023. Again, interested people may contact the RCC officers. Current distinguished lecturers are:

- Giovanni Geraci, University Pompeu Fabra.
- Bruno Clerckx, Imperial College London.

Currently there are no results yet about Distinguished Lecturers starting in 2023.

The Secretary then points out a new initiative launched by IEEE ComSoc: the ComSoc Technical Committee Newsletter. It is a quarterly published newsletter that aims at becoming a venue to describe all activities carried out in the framework of the several ComSoc TCs and to acknowledge the hard work of the volunteers. The first issue of the newsletter has been published online in October 2022. People interested in reporting an initiative carried out in the context of the RCC (or RCC SIG), are welcome to contact Dr. Enrico Paolini.

Finally, the Chair solicits nominations for the 2023 RCC Outstanding Service Award and the 2023 RCC Early Achievement Award, reviewing the scope of both awards.

10. Introduction of new RCC officers’ candidates

The Chair reviews the procedures, as form the ComSoc P&P, regarding the upcoming RCC officers elections. She also presents the Nomination and Election (N&E) Committee of 2022 RCC Election, having the following composition:

- Chair: Jemin Lee
- 2 Past Chairs: Andrea Giorgetti, Yuan Shen
- 1 Active Member: Jack Winters

The Chair then presents the selected candidates for the officers positions, in alphabetic order:

- Chair
 - Dr. Julian Cheng, University of British Columbia, Canada

- Dr. Santiago Mazuelas, Basque Center for Applied Mathematics, Spain
- Vice-chair
 - Dr. Enrico Paolini, University of Bologna, Italy
 - Dr. Gianni Pasolini, University of Bologna, Italy
- Secretary
 - Dr. Mark Flanagan, University College Dublin, Ireland
 - Dr. Tingting Zhang, Harbin Institute of Technology, China

For each of the candidates, the Chair shows the candidate's short biography and invites the candidate to present himself and to give a short statement. After all candidates' statements, the Chair explains carefully the voting procedure (by email). The list of current RCC active members is attached to the slides. People not appearing in the list, but confident to be an active member can contact the chair. Voting starts on Dec. 1 and ends on Dec. 8, since by Dec. 12 election report shall be sent to TC Director and VP-TEA for approval. Approved results will be announced by early January at latest.

11. Next RCC Meeting

The next RCC meeting will be scheduled in ICC 2023, Rome, Italy.

12. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 pm GMT.

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