

Minutes

IEEE ComSoc Optical Networking Technical Committee Meeting
OFC 2004

Room 504, Los Angeles Convention Center, Los Angeles, California
February 24, 2004

Attendees: Biswanath Mukherjee, Anna Tzonahaki, Ioannis Tomkos, Sam Ou, Nim Cheung, Ken-ichi Sato, Randall Berry, Eytan Modiano, Chunming Qiao, Narendra Singhal, Amitabha Banerjee, Yurong Huang, Hongyue Zhu, Jacek Chrostowski, Jian Wang, Georgios Ellinas, Jason Jue, Doug Zukerman

1. Biswanath Mukherjee opened the meeting at 5:35 pm.
2. Self-introductions.
3. Minutes from Gobecom 2003 were approved.
4. OFC 2004 report

Georgios is the chair of the networking track for OFC. He reported that last year there were 220 papers submitted to the networking track. This year there were 180 papers submitted plus 15 post-deadline papers submitted. An increasing amount of the papers are from Asia. Acceptance rate was around 33-35%. There were 10 invited talks, 10 post-deadline papers accepted, 1 workshop, and 6 short courses.

It was mentioned that ONTC should help to increase ComSoc participation in OFC. It was also mentioned that everyone on the networking committee for OFC is from ComSoc. Also, the invitation of one of the keynote speakers, Y.K. Lee, was initiated through ComSoc.

Ideas are being solicited for OFC 2005. A suggestion was to find service providers or vendors for workshops, invited talks, or panels. Any suggestions for other topics or people to invite could be sent to Ioannis or Biswanath by the end of next week.

5. ICC 2004

There is an Optical Network and Systems Symposium. The quality of papers is good. It was suggested that the symposium should be highlighted and promoted more by ComSoc. The web page lists only the Symposium Chairs, but not the Technical Program Committee members. The TPC members should be listed in the program/proceedings, as well as on the web site, not just to give credit to the TPC members, but to advertise the people who are involved, especially if TPC members are well known in the community. This suggestion should be pointed out to the General Chair and Program Chair of ICC.

6. Globecom 2004

Globecom 2004 will be held in Dallas. The deadline for submission is March 1. Andrea Fumagalli is one of the program chairs for the Optical Symposium. Ioannis is organizing a workshop on Optical Networking Infrastructures for Grid Computing.

7. OFC 2005

OFC 2005 will be held in Anaheim, California in March 2005. There was a planning meeting today. Ideas were being solicited for workshops and invited speakers. Some of the topics included: next-generation optical packet switching, resilient optical networks, free-space optics, optics in storage, impairment-constrained routing, CDMA, multigranular switches, all-optical label swapping, grid computing, access and EPONs.

8. ICC 2005

ICC 2005 will be held in Seoul, Korea. There is an Optical Networking Symposium chaired by Hussein Mouftah.

9. Globecom 2005

Globecom 2005 will be held in St. Louis. Ioannis and Jason will be organizing and co-chairing an Optical Networking Symposium. A symposium proposal is currently being prepared and will be submitted to the Globecom Program Chair.

10. Other Conferences

BroadNets 2004

The OptiComm conferences originally started out with SPIE as the sponsor. However, last year's OptiComm was run independently with technical sponsorship from IEEE ComSoc. This year, the name is being changed from OptiComm to BroadNets. The scope is wider, with a symposium for Broadband Optical, and a symposium for Broadband Wireless. It is being sponsored by a non-profit organization called CreateNet. The conference is open to sponsorships, both technical and/or financial. The process for IEEE ComSoc sponsorship is to fill out the appropriate form and have a ComSoc technical committee endorse the event.

The reason for the name change from OptiComm to BroadNets was to break any association with SPIE. SPIE wanted to dictate the location of the conference and combine it with other events. In 2001 it was located in Denver and co-located with ITCOM, and ended up being a failure. However, when it was run independently in Dallas in 2003, it was successful. The OBS workshop alone attracted 50 people. Also it was difficult working with SPIE to bring IEEE in to the conference and having IEEE as a partner in the publication, Optical Networks Magazine.

The ONTC voted on endorsement of sponsorship for BroadNets. The endorsement was approved.

ECOC

ECOC is in September in Stockholm, Sweden. There are several technical committees for the conferences, one on optical networking. Paper submissions are encouraged. The deadline is April 15. ComSoc is a technical co-sponsor. ECOC used to be more device and components oriented, but now includes networking and is improving its coverage of optical networking. The attendance is around 2000 people.

ONTC doesn't have a presence in the networking committee. It was suggested to approach the ECOC organizing committee to include additional members in the networking committee. It was suggested that Ioannis could do the groundwork to maybe have this done for next year's event.

ECOC is a European conference, and recently there was a proposal to increase representatives from North America and Asia. The proposal had been partially approved, and this year the number of committee members from North America and Asia increased by 1 for each subcommittee. It was suggested that ONTC can propose ONTC members from Europe.

An inquiry was made as to ONTC involvement in other conferences, such as LEOS conferences or ONDM. Biswanath mentioned that ONTC shouldn't spread itself too thin, but could consider other conferences in the future.

11. Standards

Doug Zukerman reported on OIF activity. A 1 day workshop was proposed to precede the quarterly OIF meetings. A suggested format could be 2 tutorials and 2 panels. The ONTC may be able to help out. However, a potential problem is that OIF has member companies, and only members can participate in the meetings. Initially the workshop would be run by OIF people, but this may change in the future. In June, OIF is presenting a World Interop demo at Supercom in Chicago. The demo covers UNI/NNI architectures and involves several carrier labs, 2 European, 2 US, 2 Japanese, and 1 Korean.

12. Mailing list

Biswanath asked who maintains the ONTC mailing list at ComSoc. It was mentioned that David Alvarez, the IT department manager is probably the person responsible. His e-mail is d.alvarez@comsoc.org.

13. Publications

Chunming reported that there is a special issue of the Optical Communications Supplement of Communications Magazine. The special issue is on Multiservice Access to Optical Networks and includes PON, EPON, and optical wireless. The deadline is March 1 or March 15.

Suggestions for other special issues are welcome. There are 4 issues a year, and 1 or 2 could be dedicated for special topics.

The supplement is receiving regular submissions, and the pipeline has been filled. It wouldn't take more than 6 months for papers to appear in the supplement. The acceptance rate is around 20-30%. There is an even distribution of papers from USA, Europe, and Asia, and an even distribution between industry and academia papers.

JSAC OCN series

Vincent Chan is the editor of the series. Nim mentioned that 2 issues were published last year, and now issues 3 and 4 are under preparation. Ken-ichi Sato is the associate editor. There is a steady stream of submissions, with over 100 submissions the first year. Vincent has been handling the submissions manually, but his assistant will be leaving. A few suggestions for improving the series were given. The series should encourage more large system submissions. Right now there are a lot of papers on wavelength routing and an emphasis on theoretical papers. It should be balanced out and extended to new areas, perhaps more experimental papers. Another comment was that the editors are looking for high-quality reviewers. Any volunteers or suggestions for reviewers should be sent to Vincent.

14. Other business

Biswanath is editing a book series for Kluwer on optical networks. Anyone interested in writing a book should contact Biswanath.

15. Meeting was adjourned at 6:37 pm.