Minutes for the Optical Networking Technical Committee (ONTC) Meeting
ICC 2008, Beijing, China
Tuesday, May 20 2008, 6:00 pm – 8: 00 pm
Room 5, Crowne Plaza Hotel, Beijing

Attendees: Jason Jue, Byrav Ramamurthy, Suresh Subramaniam, Luying Zhou, Hussein Mouftah, Tibor Cinkler, Jing Wu, Anpeng Huang, Biswanath Mukherjee, Andrea Bianco, Yantai Shu, Naoki Yamanaka, Wojciech Kabacinski, Xiaojun Cao, Hideo Kuwahara, Jonathan Chao, Ken Chen, Abdelhamid Mellouk, Hassan Naser, Dominc Schupke, Joel Rodrigues, Yuyan Xue, Fabio Neri, Hongbin Luo, Lei Guo, Vinod Vokkarane, Achille Pattavina, Jun Zheng, Kun Yang, Oliver Yang, Yi Zhu, Yaohui Jin, Pin-Han Ho, George Ellinas, Ahmed Kamal

Dinner   6:00 pm – 6:30 pm

1. Introduction of officers and self-introductions.

2. Approval of minutes: Jason made a motion to approve the meeting minutes of OFC 2008; Hussein seconded. Approved unanimously.

3. Conference updates

    a. ICC 2008: George Ellinas, TPC co-chair reported that 157 papers were submitted and 58 were accepted. There were 22 nominations for best paper, 1 from Optical. The best paper chosen was not from Optical.

    b. Globecom 2008: Fabio Neri, Rudra Dutta, and Tarek El-Bawab are TPC co-chairs. Fabio reported that they were at the end of the review process. 120 papers were submitted; less than 40 at the original deadline. Around 100 TPC members were invited, and 4 reviewers/paper assigned. Fabio said that vice-chair was a position of contention. Jason said that symposia have been standardized by the GITC. A symposium can be sponsored by any TC, and TCs can propose their own chairs.

    c. OFC 2009: Biswanath reported that sub-committees have been re-organized. Networking is now in two sub-committees - Core networks SC chaired by Dominic, and Access networks SC chaired by Shoichi Hanatani from Hitachi, who is the president of FTTH council. There is also an Applications SC chaired by Chunming. SC chairs met on Friday to select invited talks, tutorials, etc. Dominic informed that the Core networks TPC consists of: Admela Jukan, Suresh Subramaniam,

Monika Jaeger, Nasir Ghani, Ashwin Gumaste, Vincent Chan, Jennifer Yates, Iraj Saniee. Deadline for submissions is Oct. 7.

d. ICC 2009: Dominic, Jun, and Kyriakos Vlachos are TPC co-chairs. Dominic reported that the CFP was out, and that the TPC would be formed soon. He also mentioned that Dresden is well worth a visit, and can be accessed easily via Munich and Frankfurt by trains and autobahns.

e. Globecom 2009: Galen Sasaki, Arunita Jaekel, Naoki Yamanaka, Alberto Bononi are TPC co-chairs. Naoki said that a planning meeting would be held the next day.

f. ICC 2010: Will be held in Capetown, South Africa. Jason said that the kickoff meeting was the next day.

4. Other conferences:

a. ICCCN 2008: Jason reported that the conference was in August, and that Biswanath was a keynote speaker. Byrav is a TPC chair, and Suresh is a TPC Vice-Chair.

b. ONDM 2008: Fabio reported that the conference was in Catalonia, Spain, during March 12-14. He said that the mainly Europe-based attendees numbered about 100. About 80 were submitted, and 50 presented. Will be held in Germany next year, and then in Japan. George remarked that ONDM was too close to OFC, and Tibor said that it would be in mid-February next year. Fabio said that it was hard to move dates of conferences around based on other conferences. Biswanath mentioned that OFC would be held mid-to-end March for the next 10 years.

c. ECOC 2008: Fabio reported that the conference has received a good number of submissions. This is a very important conference in Europe – equivalent to OFC. Fabio said that he got 130 papers to review (2-page papers). He mentioned that there was a problem with getting quality reviews.

d. Broadnets 2008 will be held in September in London. Byrav is a general co-chair. He reported that conference had 3 tracks of which one is optical and Piet Demeester is co-chair. This is the first time that the conference is being held outside the US, and a significant European attendance is expected.

e. IEEE ANTS 2008 will be Mumbai in December. Biswanath said that the conference is now IEEE ANTS, and is on ComSoc's top

10 conferences (per their website). Biswanath gave registration numbers. Suresh said that the paper submission deadline was July 1. The website is www.antsconference.org. Last year's keynote was given by Krish Prabhu, CEO of Tellabs. This year's will be by Dr. Arun Netravali. Biswanath also mentioned that several top papers from ANTS 2007 were selected and invited to OSN. A special issue is expected to come out before IEEE ANTS 2008.

f. APOC 2008: Yahui Jin from SJTU reported that the conference would be held in October in Shanghai.

g. HSN workshop: Byrav informed the attendees that it's usually co-located with Infocom and was a half-day workshop on the Sunday before Infocom. It's sponsored by ONTC and touches optical and high-performance areas.

h. HPSR 2008: Naoki said that it was held the previous week in Shanghai. Will be held in June in Paris next year. 50% of papers fall in the optical area.

i. Ellinas said that ICTON 2008 would be in June in Athens, Greece.

j. Tibor mentioned that the Organized Networks conference is in September in Budapest. It has some optical papers, but is more general, and is IEEE co-sponsored.

5. Publications:
    a. Jason reported on the plan for an independent IEEE journal, and a possible merger with JON. He mentioned that there was some discussion going on between ComSoc and OSA.

    b. Jason informed that the feature topic in the June 2008 Communications Magazine is multi-domain ON. Byrav, Dominic, Chava, and Eiji Oki are guest editors. Byrav encouraged others to submit proposals for feature topics.

    c. Ellinas reported on a JON special issue on radio over fiber.

    d. Fabio raised the issue that OSN, which focuses on switching and networking, was not receiving many submissions; he encouraged people to submit papers. He reported that the journal publishes a number of post-conference special issues, and has a quick review cycle.

6. Industry activities: Dominic mentioned that he's starting to think about ideas to encourage industry to attend conferences like ICC/GC, and to encourage submissions from industry. Biswanath pointed out that someone from industry could present some standards activities or do something like e-photon-one. Something more than just conference activities needs to be done to keep things vibrant. Hussein mentioned that Zuckerman was the industry representative when ONTC started, and raised the hope that Dominic would play a similar role.

7. Website: Byrav solicited information about labs, etc. that could be featured on the website. He also mentioned that if anyone is interested in writing an ON newsletter every month or two, it could be published on the website. He pointed out that the mailing list is open to all members and unmoderated. There's a 100 kb limit on posts.

8. The meeting adjourned at 7:39 pm. The next meeting would be at Globecom 2008.

Minutes recorded by Suresh Subramaniam