Agenda for the Optical Networking Technical Committee (ONTC) Meeting

ICC 2023
Date: Wednesday, May 15, 2023
Time: 5-6 pm CEST
Place: Virtual Meeting

1. Welcome and Introductions
Zuqing Zhu welcomed and thanked remote participants for attending the ONTC meeting.
Zuqing shares the screen and introduces the agenda for the meeting.

2. Approval of the minutes from ONTC meeting from pre-OFC 2022
   https://site.ieee.org/comsoc-ontc/files/2023/03/OFC2023_Minutes.pdf

Moved: Luca Valcarenghi
Seconded: Imran Ansari
Minutes approved after votes.

3. ONTC 2022 Awards
   Zuqing: We have awarded two of our members the ONTC outstanding service award and outstanding technical achievement award. I want to use this chance to congratulate Luca for being awarded with the ONTC Outstanding Service Award for year 2022 for his outstanding service to the optical network community.
   Luca: Thanks to everyone, especially the ONTC community and all my mentors through the years. I am very honoured to receive this ONTC award.
   Zuqing: The outstanding technical achievement award for year 2022 goes to Suresh Subramaniam for pioneering research in design and optimization of optical networks.
   Suresh: I am humbled and honoured for this award and it is humbling to be among those that have received this award. It has been a pleasure to work with so many people in this group.

4. ONTC Secretary Election in GLOBECOM 2023 (GLC23)
   Zuqing: In December during GLOBECOM we will have elections for the new secretary. Previous chairs have accepted to be part of the new committee for electing the new secretary. If you want to nominate someone as ONTC secretary, please contact Luca and he will come up with a detailed timeline regarding this. We will announce all the nominees 15 days before the election in GLC2023. We have some time until the elections, so if you are interested, please contact Luca.
   Luca: Yes, thank you for appointing me as chair, and thanks to other members. One important thing is that we need at least two candidates, so it is important that even young people are candidates since we need new people to help up with activities.
   Zuqing: How many candidates did we have last time, 4?
   Luca: Yes, 4; And ones that were not elected last time are more than welcomed to apply.

5. **ONTC Endorsement of ComSoc DLs**
   Zuqing: We as ONTC can nominate you as a ComSoc Distinguished Lecturer (DL). Since pandemic is over, this is becoming more valuable. ComSoc will fund you to travel and give lectures. We can nominate and endorse you. So, please contact me if you are interested. You need to prepare some documents, so if you are interested and want to be nominated and endorsed by me, please send your documents to at least 15 days before deadline so that I have some time to prepare.

6. **Statistics of ONS in ICC/GLOBECOM**
   Zuqing: We see that submissions of ICC and GLC have gone down a bit in recent years. If we do not have enough submissions in the coming years, we might lose ONS and that is the only symposium that we have in ICC and GLC. Now we have 50-60 submissions, and it is not looking good. Moreover, we think that tracks such as ML can have even up to 200 submissions. If we do not have the submission number go up, it might become a problem in the future. We can see that for the whole conference there are a lot of papers, but they are submitted to other symposiums. If this is downgraded as track, we will have only one symposium co-chair.
   Mohammed: What are the papers that get submitted to other symposiums?

Zuqing: I'm just saying that consider ONS as a main choice, because we have papers that go to ML or NGI symposia that could be instead be submitted to ONS.

Mohammed: we should talk to GITC to monitor the scope, so that those papers are sent to ONS.

Zuqing: Yes, and no. The technical scope of each symposium is being monitored by the TPC.

Mohammed: In that case we should approach to TPC chairs.

Zuqing: We do have this process of re-assigning the papers. They can inform the TPC co-chairs, but that is not a common practice.

Mohammed: It will not work since everyone is trying to get more papers.

Zuqing: We are now second to last in number of submitted papers.

Mohammed: There is also a lot of optical communication in the space domain. We should try to get some of those papers. They might go to Satelite TC as well, but they might be in ONS as well.

Suresh: Some of you were there in ONDM, it is a 4-day full program. At GLC we have 4-5 sessions at most. It is also upon us, if we want the symposium to survive, then we need to submit more. If we decide that it is better to have it once a year, either ICC or GLC. I think there is enough work, but it is up to us where we decide to publish.

Mohammed: I don't think there has been any trend in industry to reflect the down-trend of paper submissions.

Zuqing: Yes, because in OFC the number of paper is increasing. I think it's just important to remember that if you submit to ONS in ICC/GLC. We are trying to also encourage having special issues in journals. If you are considering to submit to GLC23, please consider supporting ONS.

Massimo: Is there any discussion going on with quantum symposium?

Zuqing: No, I brought it out but they do not want to listen since they say it is a new technology.

7. **ICC 2023/GLOBECOM 2022**
   ❯ GLOBECOM 2022 (Rio de Janeiro, Brazil):
       – ONS Chairs: Suresh Subramaniam (GWU, USA), Anas Chaaban (UBC, Canada)
       – Submissions
           ▪ 64 Papers: 34 Networks, 30 Systems
       – Accepted
           ▪ 25 Papers: 14 Networks, 11 Systems
   ❯ ICC 2023 (Rome, Italy):
       – ONS Chairs: Raul Munoz (CTTC, Spain), Murat Yuksel (UCF, USA)
       – Submissions
           ▪ 54 Papers: 30 Networks, 24 Systems
       – Accepted
           ▪ 21 Papers: 11 Networks, 10 Systems

8. **Future ICC/GLOBECOM Conferences**
   ❯ GLOBECOM 2023 (Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia):
       – ONS Chairs: Jerzy Domzal (AGH University of Science and Technology, Poland), Nicola Andriolli (CNR, Italy)
   ❯ ICC 2024 (Denver, Colorado, USA)
       – ONS Chairs: Luca Valcarenghi (Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna, Pisa, Italy), Lutz Lampe (University of British Columbia, Canada)
   ❯ GLOBECOM 2024 (Cape Town, South Africa)
       – ONS Chairs: Nominations submitted.
   ❯ ICC 2025 (Montreal, Canada)
       – ONS Chairs: Nominations submitted.

Zuqing: Regarding GLOBECOM 2023, is there any of the organizers present? Jerzy contacted and mentioned that submission is low so far. For ICC24 it will be in Denver, Luca will be one of the chairs. And GLC24 will be in CapeTown.

9. **Other Future Conferences**
   Zuqing: We are organizing the symposium in Future Networks together with Dan and Lena. This year we invite you to submit regular papers. Lena do you have something to add?
   Lena: Yes, the conference is pretty large in scope and has a high attendance from industry. Deadline is in July, please contact us if you need some days more. We also have a special issue

in JOCN for selected papers. It is nice to finally have meetings in presence, so it is going be great to see everyone here and also in ACP and OECC, I strongly suggest everyone to submit.

Zuqing: The pandemic is officially over in China, so the government removed all travel restrictions and you just need to buy a ticket and submit to OECC. We also have this nice conference IEEE ANTS, in July. Anyone here among the organizers?

Suresh: I can say a few words. For those of you that want to visit Jaipuir - it is the city of palaces, one of the vertices of the triangle of cities to visit in India. Registration fees are very low, like 200 dollars. There's lots of local attendees.

Luca: There are me and Anuj that are part of the TPC chair. I support what Suresh said. I am looking forward to visiting. We are putting together the TPC members, so you are more than welcome to submit.

Zuqing: We also have ICNC in 2024 in Hawaii. We will be symposium co-chairs with Massimo. So, if you're interested to visit Hawaii, February is the best time to visit. This used to be an annual conference but it got discontinued for two years due to Covid. If you have a question drop me or Massimo an email.

10. **Journal Updates**

Zuqing: We are covering journals such as IEEE Networking letters, JOCN, JLT and TNSM.

Massimo: As Ioannis Tomkos and Zuqing Zhu were recently selected as Associate Editor in TCOM, we encourage ONTC members to submit there.

Zuqing: Thanks for bringing this up. TCOM did not have an optical-network editors until now, as the editors are usually coming from the communications side and not networks. It is a good journal, so please try to submit and support the journal. Massimo, you have a special issue in TNSM on reliable networks also in 2023?

Massimo: Yes, we recently had a call for the editorial board of TNSM and it has been decided to renew for the special issue that will be led by me and Teresa Gomes. Deadline for submission is middle of November.

Zuqing: Note that we also have a series in IEEE communication magazine.

11. **Any Other Business (AOB)**

Zuqing: Please bring it up if you have anything to add?

Massimo: regarding the two opportunities that were sponsored by IEEE, the video and organization of the workshops. I think the deadline is middle of May but we did not get any submission. Is it correct?

Zuqing: I didn't receive anything, someone said that they wanted to submit something to the innovation project. I think it may be extended to 20 May. It is a good opportunity provided by ComSoc, so they invite all committees to submit proposal so they can know how you promote the activities in the community, for example conferences, special issues. Another thing is the video, you can come up with a video and submit the video to IEEE, and you can promote the area of your technical committee. I will put this in the newsletter.

Cyn: Just so you know, both of the deadlines are extended to July 1ˢᵗ.

Zuqing: We need some ideas and proposals, and I suggest candidates that want to become secretaries that you can consider this. The proposal will not be specific, for example special issues, conferences and workshops to promote ONTC. We have one member interested but no submissions now.

If there is nothing else to add, then thank you for joining the meeting. Next time I invite you to be in our next meeting in GLC. This concludes our meeting.

Attendees

Name
Massimo Tornatore
Memedhe Ibrahimi

Zuqing Zhu
Cyn Sikora
Carlos Natalino
Luca Valcarenghi
Krzystof Walkowiak
Raul Munoz
Suresh Subramaniam
Murat Yuksel
Ricard Vilalta
Lena Wosinska
Marco Ruffini
Salvatore Spadaro
Hossein Mouftah
Andrea Marotta
Anny Xijia Zheng
Anuj Agrawal
Imran Shafique Ansari
Mohammed Atiquzzaman
Pascal Lorenz
Rupei Xu
Yusuke Hirota