Social Networks Technical Committee

Meeting Minutes

17 April 2023 – Virtual

Document Title:	Meeting Minutes
Meeting:	IEEE ICC 2023 TCSN Meeting
TC Chair:	Damla Turgut
TC Vice-Chair:	De-Nian Yang
TC Secretary:	Burak Kantarci
Meeting Recorder:	Cynthia Sikora
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Purpose of Meeting

Annual meeting of the IEEE Social Networks Technical Committee (TCSN) which took place in the context of IEEE GC 2022 (virtually). This is the 15th TC meeting for the Technical Committee on Social Networks that has been established and functioning from January 1, 2016.

Agenda

Item	Topic
1.	Welcome and Introduction
2.	Approval of the Agenda
3.	Approval of Meeting Minutes IEEE GC 2022 (online)
4.	Scope of TCSN
5.	TCSN members and recognitions (activities)
6.	TCSN Status
7.	Newsletter
8.	Journal Activities
9.	Volunteers for the SAC tracks in GCs and ICCs
10.	Special Interest Groups (SIGs)
11.	Award Policy
12.	2023 ComSoc TC Innovation Support
13	2023 ComSoc TC Campaign Video Project

List of Participants

Name	Affiliation
Damla Turgut (Chair)	University of Central Florida, USA
De Nian Yang (Vice Chair)	Academia Sinica, Taiwan
Burak Kantarci (Secretary)	University of Ottawa, Canada
Anna Maria Vegni	Roma Tre University, Italy
Charalampos Patrikakis	University of West Attica, Greece
Chee Wei Tan	Nanyang Technological University, Singapore
Claudio Marche	University of Cagliari, Italy
Cynthia Sikora	IEEE Comsoc
Eirini Eleni Tsiropoulou	University of New Mexico, USA
Frank Li	University of Agder, Norway
Kun Yang	University of Essex, UK
Manjo B. S.	IIST Trivandrum, India
Michele Nitti	University of Cagliari, Italy
Neeli Prasad	Trusted Mobi, "VehicleAvatar Inc", USA
Pascal Lorenz	University of Haute Alsace
Symeon Papavassiliou	National Technical University of Athens, Greece
Valeria Loscri	Inria Lille, Nord Europe, France

Meeting Minutes

1. Welcome and Introduction

Damla Turgut (TCSN chair) opened the meeting and welcomed the participants. The meeting was held online.

2. Approval of the Agenda

The agenda was presented to the attendees and approved.

- Motion: Eirini Eleni Tsiropoulou (University of New Mexico, USA)
- Second: Neeli Prasad (Trusted Mobi, "VehicleAvatar Inc", USA)
- Voting: All in favor

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes IEEE GC 2022 (held online)

The committee unanimously approved the minutes of the last TCSN meeting at IEEE GC 2022. The minutes are also available online at the TCSN website.

4. TCSN Scope

Damla explained the TCSN scope and domains of interest, as well as members' involvement. She explained the nomination procedure for TC members to participate in conferences, endorsements, member elevation, and a nomination for distinguished lecturer appointments.

- TCSN serves as a forum for researchers and technologists to discuss the state-of-the-art, present their contributions, and foster the development of new emerging topical areas in social networks
- TCSN serves as ComSoc's focal point in the areas of social network, supporting IEEE ComSoc's activities (e.g., ComSoc's journals, magazines, conferences, IEEE standard activities, and the recognition and proposal of candidates) and organizing symposia, workshops, sessions and tutorials at ComSoc conferences
- Nominating suitable candidates for ComSoc and IEEE awards, proposing distinguished lecturer candidates, endorsing deserving candidates for the election to IEEE Senior Member and Fellow grade
- TCSN scope
  – Formation and evolution of human social networks
  – Information propagation and dissemination in human social networks
  – Small world phenomenon and its implication in telecommunication networks
  – Convergence of telecommunication networks and human social networks
  – Social-aware network solutions in wireless and wireline communications systems
  – Cross-layer design for social networks and the underlying communications platforms
  – AI for communications and networking
  – Optimization and protocol design for mobile social networks
  – Network graph modeling, measurements, simulations, and experiments
  – Analysis of dynamics and trends in the evolutions of social networks
  – Analysis and control of belief, influence, and rumor propagations in social environments
  – Analysis of social media, trust, and reputation
  – Privacy and security in social network
  – Social signal processing
  – Data mining, machine learning, information retrieval, and artificial intelligence in social contexts
  – Infrastructure, platform, protocol design, and optimization for mobile social clouds and social internet-of-things
  – Innovative applications in social networks and services for mobile internet, multimedia networks, mobile e-commerce, and cyber-physical systems
  – Multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary research on social networks
  – New applications and services

5. TCSN Members and Recognitions

Damla explained the definition of TC membership according to TCSN P&Ps:

- Any ComSoc member who has been active in the TC activities for the past three years, can be a member of the TCSN. It is also necessary to subscribe to the TCSN mailing list.
- A TC member shall attend (physically present or by teleconference) three or more of the prior six regularly scheduled TC meetings for the past three years, cast informed votes on TC business, and be encouraged to assist in the conduct of TC business.
- Individuals who are not ComSoc members are also welcome to participate in TC activities; however, they cannot be named TC members but collaborators.

Damla has presented the <u>invited talks, keynotes, and panels</u> that TCSN members have been involved in, as well as the awards that TCSN members have received. These include:

- **Prof. Damla Turgut**, University of Central Florida
  - IEEE Distinguished Lecture "Communication, computation, and privacy trade-off in machine learning for smart environments," hosted by IEEE Benelux Chapter, April 6, 2023
  - IEEE Distinguished Lecture "When homes are too smart for their own good: physical and computational modeling of smart homes," hosted by IEEE Student Branch & IEEE AP/COM/MTT Student Chapter at KU Leuven, April 4, 2023
  - Invited talk "Communication, computation, and privacy trade-off in machine learning for smart environments," at UC Louvain, April 7, 2023 [in-person]
  - Keynote talk "Growing the Community in Tech '', NCWIT Aspirations in Computing Award Ceremony, April 15, 2023
  - Panelist at N2Women event at IEEE PerCom'23, March 14, 2023
  - Mentor at Joint WICE/YP Mentoring event at IEEE GC'22, December 5, 2022
  - Invited talk "Increasing the participation of women and minorities in STEM at a large metropolitan university, " at Women in Communications Engineering (WICE) Workshop in IEEE Latin-American Conference on Communications, November 30, 2022

6. TCSN Status

Damla presented the status of the TC. The mailing list currently has 1206 subscribers. The website is active and up to date. Email address for interaction with members was provided along with subscription information. TCSN is also active in social media. Links to Twitter, LinkedIn, and Facebook were also provided.

7. Newsletter

The newsletter is published twice a year in ICC and Globecom. 11 Issues have been published so far. De-Nian, Damla, and Burak were the editors of issue 10; Claudio Marche was the editor of issue 11. Contents of the latest newsletter were presented to the attendees and feedback was asked.

8. Journal Activities

TCSN has been involved in organizing several special issues. These include:

- IEEE Networking Letters
  - Special Issue on Networking Enablers for 6G Use Cases
    - ✓ Topic of interest: Bridging agility, flexibility, and personalized user experience
    - ✓ Guest Editors: Burak Kantarci (Lead), Paolo Monti, Raouf Boutaba
    - ✓ Submission Deadline: December 15 2022
    - ✓ Publication Date: 2nd Quarter 2023
- IEEE Transactions on Network Science and Engineering

- – Next-generation Traffic Measurement with Network-wide Perspective and Artificial Intelligence
  - ✓ Topic of interest: Network-wide and/or AI-powered traffic measurement for online **social** networks
  - ✓ Guest editors: He Huang (Lead), Haipeng Dai, Shigang Chen, Amirhosein Taherkordi, Ran Ben Basat, Jun (Jim) Xu
  - ✓ Submission Deadline: 15 January 2023
  - ✓ Revised Manuscripts Due: 1 June 2023
  - ✓ Publication Date: First Quarter 2024
- IEEE Communications Magazine
  - – Affective Computing and Communications Research, Technologies, Management, and Applications
    - ✓ Topic of interest: Application of emotion sensing in communications, including emotions in **social** networks communications
    - ✓ Guest editors: Abd-Elhamid M. Taha, Ajjen Joshi, M. Fatima Domingues, Mehmet Ulema
    - ✓ Submission Deadline: 1 December 2022
    - ✓ Final Accepted Manuscript Due: 15 April 2023
    - ✓ Publication Date: June 2023
- IEEE Internet of Things Magazine
  - – Data Science Driven Intelligent IoT
    - ✓ Topic of interest: Application of intelligent IoT to **social** IoT
    - ✓ Guest Editors: Pin-Han Ho (Lead), Shih Yu Chang, James She, Yuren You, Min Chen, János Tapolcai
    - ✓ Submission Deadline: December 31 2022
    - ✓ Final Manuscript Due: 15 March 2023
    - ✓ Expected Publication Date: June 2023
- IEEE Communications Magazine
  - – **Social**-aware Communication Networks and Systems and Innovative Social Network Applications and Services
    - ✓ Topic of interest: Graph modeling, learning/prediction, **social** network evolution with application in **social**-aware networks / systems and advanced applications; simulations, experiments
    - ✓ Guest editors: Malamati Louta (Lead Guest Editor), Chiara Boldrini, Francesco Bonchi, Symeon Papavassiliou
    - ✓ Submission Deadline: 1 December 2022
    - ✓ Final Accepted Manuscript Due: 15 April 2023
    - ✓ Publication Date: June 2023
- IEEE Network
  - – Networking Challenges and Opportunities for Multi-user XR and the Metaverse
    - ✓ Topic of interest: Machine learning, data science, and blockchains for multi-user XR and the **Metaverse**
    - ✓ Guest editors: Bo Han (Lead), Tristan Braud, Mario Di Francesco, Maria Gorlatova, Luyang Liu, Gábor Sörös, Pengyuan Zhou
    - ✓ Submission Deadline: 22 December 2022
    - ✓ Final Manuscript Due: 10 April 2023
    - ✓ Publication Date: May/June 2023
- IEEE Communications Magazine

- Metaverse
  - ✓ Topic of interest: Sustainability, **Social** Good
  - ✓ Guest editors: Mischa Dohler, Mar Gonzalez Franco, Young-Gab Kim, Timoni West
  - ✓ Submission Deadline: 1 October 2022
  - ✓ Final Accepted Manuscript Due: 28 February 2023
  - ✓ Publication: May 2023

9. Volunteers for the SAC tracks in GCs and ICCs and other activities

Damla presented the volunteers of the TC for current and future conferences. These include:

- ICC 2023 Rome:
  - Rep: De-Nian Yang
- GC 2023 Kuala Lumpur:
  - Rep: Neeraj Kumar
- ICC 2024 Denver:
  - Rep: Eirini Eleni Tsiropoulo
- GC 2024 Cape Town, South Africa:
  - Rep: Anna Maria Vegni
- ICC 2025 Montreal, Canada:
  - Rep: Valeria Loscri
- GC 2025 Taipei, Taiwan:
  - Rep: TBD
- ICC 2026, Glasgow, Scotland
  - Rep: TBD
- GC 2026, Macau, China
  - Rep: TBD

Active TC members are sought for the SN track of the SAC symposium in ICC/Globecom. Damla has explained the goals and responsibilities of track chairs in future conferences: Update topics in CFP. Advertise the CFP on social media. Advertise the CFP to the authors of the previous symposiums. Advertise the CFP to the authors of previous ICCs and GCs. Regional mailing lists. Update TPC members in TCSN (we need to incentivize new people)

TCSN volunteers were also introduced. Current voluntary positions are as follows:

- Web: De-Nian Yang (Academia Sinica)
- Newsletters: Claudio Marche [Twice a year at ICC and Globecom]
- Membership development: Eirini Eleni Tsiropoulou (University of New Mexico, USA) & Burak Kantarci (University of Ottawa, Canada)
- Awards Committee: TCSN will keep working on this. Diversity is a key objective when forming and running the awards committee.
- Industry liaison: Charalampos Patrikakis (University of West Attica, Greece)
- Liaison to ComSoc Standardization Board: Charalampos Patrikakis (University of West Attica, Greece)
  - Prof. Vincent Chan mentioned that IEEE is collaborating with industry in Silicon Valley to discuss which topics should be standardized and how to do it.
- Liaisons to TSCBD: Shui Yu (University of Sydney)
- Marketing: Neeli Prasad (Trusted Mobi, "VehicleAvatar Inc", USA) and De-Nian Yang (Academia Sinica)

10. Special Interest Groups (SIGs)

TCSN calls for Special Interest Groups. Interested members should contact TCSN officers with a scope, proposed activities, and a liaison to other TCs. TCSN will support SIG activities by technically co-sponsoring workshops and conferences, promoting seminars and talks, and organizing special issues in journals.

There is a call for interest in liaison with other TCs. Interested members are encouraged to contact TCSN officers. The objective is to promote joint activities of interest, coordinate initiatives, and organize special issues in journals.

Two SIGs have been presented. **SIoA SIG: Social Internet of Anything**; **ToSN SIG: Special Interest Group on TRUSTWORTHINESS ON SOCIAL NETWORKS**

SIoA SIG Officers include Anna Maria Vegni (Chair), Valeria Loscri (Co-Chair), and Abderrahim Benslimane (Senior Advisor).

The Scope of SIoA SIG is as follows: The Social Internet of Anything Special Interest Group (SIoA SIG) of the IEEE Technical on Social Networks (SN) promotes research and development in the emerging area of social networking applied to communication networks, ranging from traditional IoT networks, including Internet of Vehicles, Internet of Flying devices, Internet of Medical devices, till Internet of People, where social features are relevant and exploitable for communication and networking purposes. Due to this huge application field, not limited to IoT, and since social aspects can find applicability in different fields, we extend the definition of Social IoT to Social Internet of Anythings. In this context, we are aware that new threats can emerge and make the SIoA more vulnerable to cyber-attacks. The SIoA will focus on research activities on all these aspects. SIoA SIG aims to provide a platform for researchers and practitioners from academia and industry to discuss relevant topics and exchange views on the important issues of SIoA provisioning, social networking, and connectivity, social community detection and prediction, social ties and hub nodes for communication networks, cross-layer design, and inter-operability between communication networks and social networks. It will also assist the TCSN by organizing and supporting ComSoc-sponsored conferences and workshops, special issues, and feature topics of relevant journals.

Since the creation of the SIoA SIG, the Chairs have advanced in the definition of a logo that better depicts the main topics covered by the SIG. A Logo Creation Contest initiative has been suggested in order to involve all the interested members of TCSN, especially students and post-docs, to send in their logo design idea.

The 2nd Intl. Workshop on Social Internet of Anythings, in conjunction with IEEE WiMob 2023, which will be held in Montreal, Canada during 21-23 June 2023.

- https://sn.committees.comsoc.org/call-for-papers/second-international-workshop-on-social-internet-of-anything-sioa23/
- http://www.wimob.org/wimob2023/index.html

Invited seminars of SIoA SIG are expected to be delivered every two months by selected researchers in the field of social networking and communications.

- The 1st Invited Seminar was delivered by Prof. Iera, on February 25, 2022.

- The 2nd Invited Seminar was delivered by Prof. Morabito, on April 29, 2022. (Registration link: https://forms.gle/snGNueqy39r6mNYx7)
- The 3rd Invited Seminar will be delivered by Prof. Valencia, on October 28, 2022. (Registration link: https://forms.gle/tuUjKF9xmMuPWnMA6)
- The 4th Invited Seminar will be delivered by Prof. Nitti, on February 17, 2023. (Registration link: https://forms.gle/SW6scC3cBvgn6bAQ6)

ToSN SIG Officers include Charalampos Z. Patrikakis (Chair), Agata Gurzawska (Co-chair), and Sorin Adam Matei (Senior Advisor).

The Scope of ToSN SIG is as follows: The Trustworthiness on Social Networks interest group will foster trust-focused research on social networks. It will identify the trust vulnerabilities and opportunities in existing and future social networking technologies. It will also examine the design and usage factors that influence societal perceptions of trustworthiness of social networking platforms and of their business models. Particular attention will be paid to regulation, including both specific measures to foster trustworthiness and guardrails to prevent unjustified controls of social media in the name of trustworthiness.

The group will propose and evaluate tools and methods for enhancing trust in social networks. Finally, it will expand on the results of research projects such as HORIZON 2020 EUNOMIA, HORIZON EUROPE project VERITY and Trust First.

11. Award Policy

- Categories
    - Technical Achievement Award, Outstanding Service Award
- Award Subcommittee
    - Chair and members: appointed by TC Chair
        - ✓ At least 3 and at most 6 committee members
    - Term limit: 2 years (with at most one additional 2-year term)
- Eligibility
    - IEEE ComSoc (any of ComSoc's sister societies) members, except TC Chair
- Nominations
    - Solicited by Award Subcommittee Chair
        - ✓ At TC meetings or via TC mailing list
- Selection Process
    - Final decision: made by Award Subcommittee, approved by TC Chair
    - Selection criteria: established by Award Subcommittee
    - Reviews, voting, and deliberations are confidential
- Reporting of Awards
    - Award Selection Report
        - ✓ Prepared by Award Subcommittee Chair
        - ✓ Sent by TC Chair (within 2 weeks of selection)
        - ✓ Approved by TC Director (with in 2 weeks of receipt)
- Policies that follow IEEE ComSoc P&P
    - Creation and scope of awards

– Conflicts of interest
– Submission deadline of Award Selection Report

12. 2023 ComSoc TC Innovation Support

Purpose: 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.

How:
- $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.
- A proposal template will be available soon

Selection Criteria:
- Technical challenge and breakthrough innovations your TC/SIG/ETC will address and provide
- Related contributions and activities which your TC/SIG/ETI has already made and organized
- Future plan and potential impact (e.g., technological impact and membership diversity)
- Incubate and nourish the new and emerging technology
- Help to recruit more members

Timeline:
- 15 May 2023: Deadline of proposal submission
- 16 May - 30 June 2023: Review and Selection Process
- 1 July 2023: Notification of selection results

13. 2023 ComSoc TC Campaign Video Project

VP TEA proposes the development of TC Campaign video
- **Purpose:** to make our members and the public aware of what our technical committees are doing and how they guide the high-interest initiatives in communication technology
- **How:** will make one 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
    - Will work with ieee.tv and IEEE Media Center
    - Introduction of your TC, interviews with TC members, new technologies, classic papers, etc.
- **Budget:** The estimated budget is $30,000, about $1,000 per TC

VP TEA proposes the development of TC Campaign video
- **Goals:**
    - Provide an enhanced experience and membership recruitment and retention opportunities

  – Increased member recruitment and engagement
  – Promoting your TC and your TC's research and innovations
- **Timeline:**
  – 17 Feb. 2023: Announce the TC Campaign Video Project
  – 15 May 2023: Submission of TC video ideas/proposals
  – 1 June – 1 Oct. 2023: Making the TC videos

The meeting was adjourned at 12pm EST.