



Meeting Minutes

12th June 2014 – Sydney, Australia

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CSIM-TC Vice Chair:	George Michailidis
CSIM-TC Secretary:	Christos Verikoukis
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Purpose of Meeting

Annual meeting of the IEEE Technical Committee on Communications Systems Integration and Modeling (CSIM-TC) which took place within IEEE ICC 2014.

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Agenda

Item	Topic
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1.	Welcome/Introduction
2.	Approval of the Agenda
3.	Approval of Meeting Minutes Globecom 2013 (Atlanta)
4.	Reports on Conferences
5.	Reports on Publications
6.	Standards Liaison
7.	Next CSIM-TC Meeting
8.	Adjournment

Meeting Minutes

1. Welcome/Introduction

The TC Chair, Stefano Giordano, first asked the participants to introduce themselves by giving their name and affiliation. He asked if any people are attending for the first time the meeting.

In continue he presents briefly IEEE communications society with some statistical data in order to show its dimension. He comments that it is one of the biggest societies. In continue he presents the members of IEEE ComSoc as well as the elected officers and clarifies that each position can be held for 2 years. Finally he indicates the new president as well the candidates for the society officers.

2. Approval of the Agenda

Then he shows the agenda to the audience and presents the structure of the committee meeting. He is asking for the agenda approval and the consensus on it the meeting goes on.

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes Globecom 2013 (Atlanta)

The TC Chair, Stefano Giordano, asked for the approval of the Meeting minutes from Globecom 2013 (Atlanta) and the after the consensus the meetings are approved.

4. Report on conference and publications

The TC Chair, Stefano Giordano, explains to the attendees that there are two specific meetings one dedicated to economic issues one to technical activities. He mentioned that Michael Devetsikiotis is the elected chair. As far as the workshops' proposals are concerned he emphasized that for conferences ICC2013 and Globecom 2013, 49 (29 accepted – 9 cancelled) and 45 proposals (22 accepted and 7 canceled) have been submitted correspondingly. A large number of papers should be submitted for a higher number of workshops to be accepted. Finally, outlines that the typical sponsorship for these types of activities ranges between 200-350K.

Moreover, he comments on the multimedia approach for the posters that for first time was introduced in ICC 2014. Thereby, the presenters avoid putting printed slides in the wal and they are able to present their work with an innovative and interactive way.

Finally for the first time in ICC 2014 the attendees had the opportunity to obtain a one or two-day pass (300\$ one day – 450\$ two day) in order to participate to the tutorials and the workshops.

5. Report on Technical Activities Council (TAC)

To begin with, the TC Chair, Stefano Giordano, presents the overall board where all the TC chairs from 23 committees participate. He shows a full list of technical and emerging technical committees and subcommittees and he outlines the presentation of CSIM among them.

A few comments about the situation of the other committees are done with the following main key points:

- ✚ The “Tactical communications and operations (TCO)” committee was dissolved.
- ✚ The “High speed Networking” and “Optical networking” committee were merged.
- ✚ In overall there are 23 committees and 13 subcommittees.

Also, the TAC the issues of the fellow nominations were discussed. This year a very high number of fellow nominations have been noticed (101 candidates).

A point that was emphasized was the role of the “Ombudsman”. This part belongs to an independent person that can act as a judge in the committee to solve disputes (this year Prof. Des Taylor).

Furthermore Stefano Giordano noticed, that each member has the possibility to apply for the position of distinguished lecturer. The requirements for the application and the advantages of this position were explained. Lorenz Pascal and Fabrizio Grannelli have already received this position and renewed the possibility for obtaining it again. The TC chair explained that all the detail can be found in the website.

Then he addressed the issue of recertification. He mentioned that all technical committees have to be recertified every three years. Also, he mentioned that among the 23 TCs, two of them have a small number of members that should be increased by declaring plan. What is more, Board of Governors (BoG) is willing to rectify the TCs (e.g., e-Health was recertified at ICC 12).

What is more, he raised the issue of improvement of the activities. The committee members are working a lot to recertify the policies and procedures.

In addition he talked about the issue of the members that can vote. A distinction between members and active members has been made as well as their voting responsibilities. They should belong to ComSoc in order to be able to vote.

In addition the subject of conflicts of interest was introduced. Stefano Giordano said that the rules about avoiding the conflicts of interest should be known to all members.

He referred to the current Board of education, which is directed by M Zorzi. Also he noted the issue that Tarek El-Bawab is trying to establish Communication engineering as a separate studying field, the last 3 years. This action has been established in the US (recognized by ABET) and this discipline is located between electrical and computer science engineering. Further information is available onsite.

Besides he mentioned the student completion held by IEEE, which is an issue related to the TAC. The 1st prize corresponds to 2000\$ and the 2nd to 1000\$.

Then he mentioned the awards that the committee can grant to candidate researchers. Stefano Giordano noted that for the first time two new awards had been proposed for a young researcher. This person (max 30 years old) should be the first author of the paper and his/her evaluation is going to be done during a three-year window. The other proposal is concerned the education award (service career paper).

Other relevant issues discussed the same morning during the TAC:

- ✚ Fabrizio Granelli tried to interpret ratios of accepted papers (workshop analytics).
- ✚ Review of symposiums
- ✚ Stimulating industry participation: ComSoc in the beginning was a society mainly with industry participation. This changed during the following years with the involvement of academia. Nowadays the members of the society want again its participation.
- ✚ Technical Committee (TC) structure and organization: The importance of challenging them to find potential issues was pointed out.
- ✚ Actions by IEEE not belonging to ComSocs: issues and IEEE future directions committee were presented.
- ✚ What is more, Stefano Giordano presented all the working groups with their chairs. He presented the people involved in standard development section (chair Mehmet Ulema, ex-officer R. Fish).
- ✚ Standards: In the following, he presented the ComSoc standard activities. In detail, the standards development and standardization programs development was explained. These are related to "Software Defined and virtualized ecosystems". More information can be found in the following link: <http://comsoc.org/about/boards/standards>. In the past CSIM was more active in the standards activities. Stefano Giordano asked the audience for participation in the actions for these activities (by contacting the responsible members) and highlighted the importance of CSIM to be more active in the field of standardization activities.

Next he referred to technical endorsement and especially to the Ad-hoc commission, which is composed by B. Kantarci, P. Chatzimisios and D. Kliazovich. He thanked the members for their evaluation work.

Then he refereed to the 2014 CSIM ComSoc events.

He clarified that every member can participate at two TPC per year (new rule) and it is very important to keep track on Google docs.

Finally he highlighted the importance of “Best Reading” action to analyze the best papers using comments. This action is very important for young students to start their work and he added that more information is found on the web page.

By these additions TAC report finished.

6. Report on CSIM Status

About the CSIM Status, the chair presents the scope of the committee and gives a definition by highlighting its objectives. He presented the names of the current officers (having this position for two years). It is a horizontal technical committee where the issues of integration are the most relevant ones.

He stated that CSIM is active in many sectors with 261 members and he presents the website. The attendees are asked for subscribing to the mailing list. Then, he says that a member becomes an active member if he/she attended two or more of the prior six CSIM TC meetings.

Stefano Giordano stated that in the past CSIM had special interest groups (SIGs) and now they try to transform them. Also he highlighted the importance of CSIM newsletter, showed the content of the last one and he stated that Christos Verikoukis is in charge. More action is needed in the presence of CSIM in the social media such as Facebook, Twitter, and LinkedIn etc. Especially he mentioned that LinkedIn is of high importance since it is the media that the majority of professionals are interested in. He stated that CSIM wants to disseminate and improve the participation to each activities by increasing the numbers in the social media. The following related statistical data were presented:

- ✚ Twitter: last meeting 22 – current meeting 28 (+6)
- ✚ Linked: last meeting 320 – current meeting 361 (+41)
- ✚ Facebook: last meeting 47 – current meeting 48 (+1)

Stefano Giordano added that a live face-to-face CSIM meeting will be held twice a year (usually in ICC and Globecom).

He highlighted the importance of new volunteers to support the actions of CSIM are needed. Also he presented some other specific actions the current members that volunteet to several activities (Fonseca, Skianis, Chatzimisions and Michailidis).

About the CSIM 2.0 web activities, a volunteer is needed for exploiting different web tools.

The next subject was the CSIM Awards. Stefano Giordano asked for the indication of a qualified member to participate in this field. The following categories were proposed:

- ✚ Conference best paper
- ✚ Best paper
- ✚ Distinguished service

In continue, the role of CSIM in publication area was presented (e.g., Communications Magazine, JSAC etc). Also the involvement of CSIM in new technological areas such as Software Defined Networking and Network Function virtualization is shown. Also the necessity for volunteers for editorial boards is highlighted.

Next topic was related to the forthcoming events:

- ✚ ICC: London (2015) – Kuala Lumpur (2016) – Paris (2017) – Abu Dabi (2018)
- ✚ Globecom: Austin (2015) – San Diego (2016) – Washington (2017) – Kansas (2017) – Singapore (2018). Especially for Singapore, Stefano Giordano stated that it seems that something changes in the selection of the place and for the first time they have organized it to be held outside US.

In continue some facts about the organization of sponsored conferences are stated:

- ✚ The member committees of the IEEE conferences ICC, CAMAD and GLOBECOM during years 2013-2014 were presented.
- ✚ The acceptance rate of IEEE ICC 2014 was 37 %
- ✚ IEEE financially sponsored the conference CAMAD. In the workshops that CSIM supports a high number of participants is expected (not necessarily only presenters). Actions from CSIM part are taken in order to maintain a competitive number of applicants as well. The hosting town will be Athens, Greece.
- ✚ The next Globecom (i.e. 2014) is going to be held next year in Austin, Texas. In this point, a major concern was expressed about Globecom 2014. Only 103 papers were submitted, from which 51 papers had only 2 reviews. In this moment, Nelson Fonseca described the situation by stating that the co-chairs didn't act responsibly as they were supposed to do. He stated that the removal of these people from their current position is necessary in order to proceed. Also he asked the participants to contribute by reviewing papers. All the participants seemed willing to contribute. Stefano Giordano agrees with the issues introduced by Nelso Fonseca and he clarified that a paper is considered properly reviewed only after 3 complete reviewing processes.
- ✚ Stefano Giordano informs the audience about IEEE CAMAD 2014. He indicates to them to have a look at the official website. The acceptance rate is ranging around 40%. Angelos Antonopoulos mentioned that he had already left some call for papers for CAMAD for the participants.

What is more, Nelson Fonseca gave an explanation why the organizers kept the name of CAMAD (Computer-Aided Modeling Analysis and Design of Communication Links and Networks) although it may look old-fashioned. Due to historical reasons computer aided model symposium was first introduced in 1986 (held by Aalborg). Since recently ComSoc sponsors this symposium. Therefore, the organizers preferred to keep the title due to

historical reasons and did not change the name after 30 years. Stefano Giordano continues by motivating the audience to participate to CAMAD and to propose a place for 2015.

Candidates for chairing and co-chairing for ICC, Globecom and CAMAD were presented (Stefano Giordano highlighted the fact that these positions require high degree of responsibility):

- ✚ For CAMAD 2015 a candidate from UK was the initial proposal but this position is still pending. For Globecom 2015 Stefano Giordano is the candidate.
- ✚ Christos Verikoukis is candidate for co-chairing for ICC 2015 as well as he is a candidate for the symposium for 2016.
- ✚ For Globecom 2016 and CAMAD 2016 the candidates have not been decided yet.

Topics of interest of GC / ICC:

- ✚ Stefano Giordano asks from the audience to take a look to these topics and he asks for potential participation.
- ✚ Also he comments on the actions that should take place during the next period: website update and social media activities (Facebook, Twitter, etc).

In this point Stefano Giordano welcomes Fabrizio Granelli that is going to describe new actions related with the standards activities:

- ✚ GIMS GITC: Fabrizio Granelli is the chair of one of the working group towards standardization activities in service virtualization (P1093 MGSON). He stated that they want volunteers to participate to their activities. The main idea is to apply and to see which are the positions of the members about topics such as SDN in the network field. He also presented the concept of other groups (including the one that he is chairing) from the last meeting in April. Their titles are the following:
 - Security reliability and performance for Software Defined and Virtualized Environments
 - Software defined and virtualized wireless access (this is the group that Fabrizio Granelli co-chairs)
 - Software defined and virtualized ecosystem
 - Service virtualization

Fabrizio Granelli, as far as the group that he is chairing is concerned, states that there is a six-month window to write the contribution. He is also asking the audience for potential participants. The overall differences among the groups (903) are also explained. Group 1 was considered a more mature topic whereas research group 2 envisages an aspect of application of SDN in wireless environments that still has not specified. Therefore, there is still open space for ideas and

contributions that can be included in the standards. This situation makes the group open for the compiling of white papers describing the open issues and potential approaches.

Stefano Giordano concludes this section by saying that meetings can take place in order to facilitate the process. From research activities patents can occur and a step towards to virtualization can be done.

7. Actions for the Next Period

The TC chair, Stefano Giordano state the following actions as imminent to be implemented during the next period:

- a) Website Update (especially a volunteer with experience in this field is required)
 - o The website was considered well done constructed and organized. A frequent update is necessary including the standard liaison and pictures of the officers. Also the minutes from ICC'11 are missing since there has not been any meeting there. For GC'11 (meeting took place at Huston) the slides are already uploaded without a document for the minutes.
- b) Increment of participation to networking tools and social media
- c) Increment of the outreach activity of the committee with the industry

Stefano Giordano stated that volunteers run all the activities of ComSoc and there is an increasing effort. Everyone interested in the procedure can start as a member and then start improving his/her activities within the society with increasing responsibilities.

Stefano Giordano asks for any questions/remarks since the meeting was reaching its adjournment.

Fabrizio Granelli reminds the audience about CAMAD 2015 and that there is a need for candidates for chairing it. He is the organizer for this event and when everything would be complete he would forward all the related information to Stefano Giordano.

Nelson Fonseca acknowledges the audience for its presence. By stating that he participates in CSIM since 1996, he highlights the importance for the participation of new people in CSIM and that there is space for new fresh ideas. He mentions that the members of CSIM are friendly and open and their approach is to have new members that would be engaged to the TC. Finally he reminds the audience to subscribe to the mailing list.

Stefano Giordano thanks all the participants for attending the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 18.14