

Minutes of IEEE COMSOC Optical Networking Technical Committee (ONTC)

Globecom, 2009, Honolulu, Hawaii, USA
12:30 PM, Wednesday, December 2, 2009
Hilton Hawaiian Village, Honolulu, HI

Attendees:

Achille Pattavina, Tarek El-Bawab, Ahmed Kamal, Jing Wu, John Doulette, Sema Oktug, Fatma Corut Ergin, Andrea Bianco, Martin Reisslein, Jaafar Elmighani, Kohei Shiomoto, Janusz Kleban, Grzegorz Danilewicz, Mirosław Kantor, Piotr Cholda, Wojciech Kabacinski, Yaohui Jin, Dominic Schupke, Yuichi Ohsita, Wei Guo, Pulak Chowdhury, Jingjing Zhang, Brigitte Jaumard, George Rouskas, Vincent Chan, Ankitkumar Patel, Eiji Oki, Amir Askarian, Xiaolan Zhang, Filippo Cugini, Luca Valcarengi, Leonid Kazovsky, Kang Xi, Jonathan Chao, Nirwan Ansari, Maode Ma, Rudra Dutta, Jason Jue

Welcome/Introduction

Dr. Jason Jue, current ONTC chair, called the meeting to order and welcomed members. Attendees introduced themselves and signed attendance sheet.

Approval of Minutes

Jason moved to approve the minutes of the ONTC meeting from ICC 2009 (June 2009) as posted at <http://committees.comsoc.org/ontc/downloads/2009-icc-minutes.pdf> ; the motion was seconded and carried.

Election of Secretary

Jason outlined the election procedures as archived at <http://committees.comsoc.org/ontc/downloads/TC-Election-Procedures.pdf> . Two nominations were already on the slate: Dr. Admela Jukan, Technical University Carolo-Wilhelmina of Brunswick (Braunschweig), and Dr. Hassan Naser, Lakehead University. Any additional nominations were called for, none were received. The attendees reviewed the candidate statements and biographies, and voted by show of hand. By independent counts, 23 votes for Dr. Jukan and 3 votes for Dr. Naser were determined to have been cast. The vote was called in favor of Dr. Jukan.

Conference Updates

During the reports on conferences, there was some discussion on submissions and participation in ONS, which is recorded separately after the conference reports below.

Globecom 2009

Dr. Galen Sasaki, University of Hawaii, co-chair of the Optical Networking Symposium at GC 2009, reported that it was running well. Other co-chairs of the symposium were Dr. Arunita Jaekel, University of Windsor, Dr. Naoaki Yamanaka, Keio University and Dr. Alberto Bononi, Universita di Parma. One paper from the symposium was nominated for and won a best paper award: “Crosstalk-Preventing Scheduling in AWG-Based Cell Switches” by Andrea Bianco, David Hay and Fabio Neri.

ONTC was co-sponsoring the Next-Generation Networking and Internet Symposium as well, and Dr. Nasir Ghani, University of New Mexico and Dr. Ashwin Gumaste, IIT Bombay/MIT were serving as ONTC assigned co-chairs of the symposium.

OFC/NFOEC 2010

Jason reported on the membership of the OFC core network subcommittee: consisting of Drs. Iraj Saniee (Chair), Piet Demeester, Anjali Agrawal, Polina Bayvel, Ashwin Gumaste, Junqiang Hu, Monika Jaeger, Admela Jukan, Andrew Lord, Adam Oorou, Jennifer Yates.

ICC 2010

ICC 2010 would be held in May 23-27, Capetown, South Africa. The ONS co-chairs would be Drs. Mounir Hamdi, Andrea Bianco and Srinivasan Ramasubramanian. Andrea reported that 89 paper submissions had been received, out of which 30 oral and 10 additional poster papers would be accepted.

Globecom 2010

To be held in December 6-10, Miami, Florida. ONS co-chairs: Drs. George Rouskas, Ahmed Kamal, Filippo Cugini and Jun Zheng. George reported that the ONS Technical Program Committee was enjoying a high participation rate.

ICC 2011

To be held in June 5-9, Kyoto, Japan. ONS co-chairs: Dr. Eiji Oki and Dr. Luca Valcarenghi. Luca reported that a new topic, Fiber Sensor Systems, would be included in the scope of ONS.

Globecom 2011

To be held in December 5-9, Houston, Texas. ONS co-chairs would be announced later.

Other Conferences and Workshops

IEEEANTS 2009

The third IEEE International Conference on Advanced Networking and Telecommunications Systems was again fully sponsored by IEEE, and was held in December 14-16, 2009, New Delhi, India. Drs. Suresh Subramaniam (GWU) and B.N. Jain (IIT Delhi) served as General Co-Chairs, and Drs. Krishna Sivalingam (IIT Chennai) and Rudra Dutta (NCSU) served as Technical Program Co-Chairs. Rudra reported that the event went very well, the acceptance rate of oral+poster papers was around 35% and for oral only was around 25%, and a large proportion of timeslots were devoted to a combination of invited and peer-reviewed talks from industry members, and were well attended and received. IEEE ANTS 2010 will be held in IIT Mumbai, Mumbai, India, Dec 15-17, 2010. The main focus of the conference is core telecommunications networks, and ONS authors are encouraged to submit papers.

HPSR 2010

The eleventh International Conference on High Performance Switching and Routing would be technically co-sponsored by IEEE Communications Society, and would be held in June 14-16, 2009, Richardson, Texas. Drs. Vincent Chan and Andrea Fumagalli will serve as General Co-Chairs, and Drs. Paolo Giaccone, Eiji Oki and Si Qing Zheng will serve as Technical Program Co-Chairs.

On Submissions and Participation in ONS

During the reports on conferences, there was some discussion on submissions and participation in ONS. It was reported that there was a perception that there were fewer networking people in the OFC 2010 committee than in previous OFCs. It was suggested that it might be time to create a separate optical networking conference altogether, to create a “home” for optical networking papers, rather than depending on Optical Networking Symposia at various conferences and OFC/NFOEC. Dr. Andrea Bianco reported that only 89 submissions had been received by ONS at ICC 2010, which was a record low for ONS. Other members spoke up to indicate that the size of ONS appears to have been shrinking in recent years, though Globecom 2009 had roughly held its size from ICC 2009. Opinions were expressed that there was overlap and fragmentation of paper topics between papers suitable for ONS and other networking areas, contributing to this phenomenon. It was also remarked that ONS sessions were sometimes sparsely attended. Dr. Dominic Schupke remarked that OFC brought together different people, from hardware/software, industry/academia, and garnered interest from attendees for this reason. A general consensus was reached that it would be better not to attempt a separate optical networking conference at this time, but push for more participation in existing ONS venues, and find ways to encourage higher interest and attendance in ONS. Dr. Vincent Chan expressed the opinion that the optical networking research community should definitely push harder for participation at OFC.

Publications - IEEE/OSA Journal of Optical Communications and Networking

Dr. Vincent Chan reported on JOCN, now an independent journal. More initial submissions were received than projected. 84% of these were non-US submissions. Average days to review had been 28 days, to publish: 169 days. There had been some issues initially with abusive authors and reviewers – these have been handled by editors. There was some difficulty in the initial pipeline for editing and other administrative tasks, especially with respect to balancing workloads between IEEE and OSA staff, these issues are being handled. Three reviews are being required for all submissions. The process requires editors, if they are undertaking one of the reviews, to identify themselves in their review as editors. Current acceptance rate is 50 – 59%, expected to stabilize at 40% soon.

Industry Activities

Dr. Dominic Schupke reported that efforts were progressing in GPON and EPON standards, including IEEE P1904 – Service Interoperability in EPON. There was an issue with industry communication – how can we create resources for managers in industry to acquaint themselves with and understand research? Dominic invited the community to write a “CEO primer” – a short but well motivated introduction and positioning of research. This may also be of use in interacting with funding bodies. The issue of

inviting industry members to committees like ONTC, or meetings of such committees, was raised – motivated by the fact that our industry liaison, Dominic, was the only industry representative currently in attendance. Dominic expressed the opinion that such attempts without any particular agenda would not be very useful, because there would be no clear motivation or benefit for an industry member to attend or participate, and both time and resources were in short supply for many industry research persons in optical networking at this time. There was a general consensus that the optical networking research community needed to be more in touch with the corresponding industry researchers and practitioners, and we needed to find mechanisms to make this happen. Dr. Rudra Dutta mentioned that in IEEE ANTS 2008 and 2009, invited industry talks that were also peer-reviewed had served very well to attract significant participation in industry, and had worked well to inform academics of industry interests and vice versa. However, it was not possible to do this at the ONS series under current rules of ComSoc, because individual symposia are not allowed to invite speakers or to hold anything but peer-reviewed technical paper sessions. It was suggested that working with IEEE/ComSoc to change processes to allow such participation would be a useful activity for ONTC.

ONTC Newsletter

A new newsletter of the ONTC, the “Prism”, has been created, edited by Dr. Ashwin Gumaste, and the first issue came out in November, 2009. Articles can be submitted by email at any time, details are at the newsletter website <http://www.ontc-prism.org/>. All articles will be peer-reviewed. It was suggested that Prism could act as a venue for articles such as the “CEO primer” discussed before – however, current articles are too long and such an article would need to be brief and incisive. Prism is already being sent to many industry members by the editor and advisory board.

Other Business

IEEE Distinguished Lecturer Program

Jason reported that as previously, ONTC had participated in nominating lecturers for this IEEE program. For the 2010-2011 distinguished lecturer term, there were a total of 18 nominations, out of which 7 have been approved. The ONTC had nominated two members, and one nomination was approved, which was Dr. George Rouskas. George was congratulated by the attendees.

ONTC Website

ONTC will soon have a new and improved website at a URL hosted by ComSoc, at <http://committees.comsoc.org/ontc/>. The ONTC mailing list continues to be ontc@comsoc.org.

New Business

None.

Adjournment

Jason announced that the next meeting of ONTC would be at OFC 2010, in San Diego, in March, 2010. The meeting was then adjourned.

The minutes were recorded by Rudra Dutta.