



Technical Committee on Transmission, Access, and Optical Systems (TAOS)

Annual Summary Activity Report

Period:	<u>January 1, 2013- December 31, 2013</u>
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1 2013 Themes and Strategic Focuses

Broadband Access (Copper, Optical, and Wireless; Telecom, Cable, and Utilities) and green communications continue as special *Strategic Themes* for TAOS' current technical activities. Both areas are also of particular interest to the Telecom industry, thereby providing more opportunities to engage industrial membership. The two TAOS' sponsored ICC/GC SAC Tracks, i.e. the Access Networks and Systems (ANS) Track and the Green Communication Systems and Networks (GCSN) Track, continued as successful tracks throughout 2013. Meanwhile, TAOS continues its traditional activities in the area of optical system and has continued to sponsor the ICC/GC Optical Networks and Systems Symposium.

2 Organization and Administrative Updates

2.1 Officers

Due to early retirement of Michael Devetsikiotis, Ahmed Kamal was elevated to position of Vice Chair, and Athanasios Manikas was elected new Secretary. A new Industry Liaison position was also introduced and Filippo Cugini was appointed for this position. TAOS elected officers serving next year (2014) are:

- Tarek S. El-Bawab, Chair
- Ahmed Kamal, Vice Chair
- Athanasios Manikas, Secretary

Appointed officers include Frank Effenberger (Standards Liaison) and Filippo Cugini (Industry Liaison)

2.2 TAOS Policies and Procedures

TAC has asked ComSoc TCs to update their P&P to reflect ComSoc's policy in regards to active/voting membership definition. TAOS policies and procedures shall be updated accordingly.

2.3 Website and Mailing list

Major renovations are underway in TAOS' website. The mailing list is undergoing continuous updates too, with the number of new subscribers exceeding, by far, the number of un-subscriptions.

2.4 Membership and Leadership Updates

Throughout 2013, TAOS continued attracting new blood and new volunteers/activists. The TC meetings now are seeing steady growth in attendance figures and increasing diversity in technical, geographical, and professional backgrounds. TAOS continues to introduce new faces to Co-Chair symposia of upcoming ICC and Globecom conferences; along with other members playing leading roles in ComSoc TCS'ed conferences. We also introduce so many new faces to TPC memberships and to our other sponsored activities. Nominations for conferences chairpersonships are drawn from pools of active TAOS members who exhibited excellent service in past reviewing and TPC assignments. Officers' nominations by TAOS' Steering Committee, on the other hand, are drawn out of a continuously updated pool of active members with remarkable contributions to the TC. TAOS enjoys a rich base of experienced professional

3 Conferences and Publications

TAOS' 2013 minutes of meetings and meetings' slides provide details about our 2013 Technical Activities. Both the Globecom and ICC minutes and slides are posted online on the TAOS website:

[http://committees.comsoc.org/taos/docs/minutes_of_meeting\(ICC13\)_v2.2\(final\)+slides.pdf](http://committees.comsoc.org/taos/docs/minutes_of_meeting(ICC13)_v2.2(final)+slides.pdf)

[http://committees.comsoc.org/taos/docs/minutes_of_meeting\(GC13\)_v2.1\(AK+TE\)+slides.pdf](http://committees.comsoc.org/taos/docs/minutes_of_meeting(GC13)_v2.1(AK+TE)+slides.pdf)

4 Contributions to ComSoc leadership

TAOS continues to provide ComSoc with senior/leadership personnel in numerous technical and administrative areas:

- Stefano Bregni, Tarek El-Bawab, and Steve Gorshe serve in ComSoc Board of Governors, as of January 2014
- Stefano Bregni: VP, Members Relations, as of January 2014
- Tarek El-Bawab: Director, Conference Operation, as of January 2014
- Steve Gorshe: Director of Magazines, as of January 2014
- Michael Devetsikiotis: Chair of GITC, as of January 2014
- Michael Devetsikiotis, Tarek El-Bawab, and Fabrizio Granelli are Board Member, Education and Training Board (ETB)
- Tarek El-Bawab Chairs the ETB's Work Group on Telecommunication Engineering Education in the US

- New ABET Accreditation Criteria for Electrical, Computer, and Communication Engineering is up for Public Comments as of October 2013 and through June 15, 2015.
- Jaafar Elmoghani Chair of cross IEEE Societies Green ICT Working Group.
 - Tarek El-Bawab represents TAOS in this Group
- Distinguished Lecturers: Fabrizio Granelli, Ahmed Kamal and Anura Jayasumana
- Frank Effenberger, Ravi Subrahmanyam, and Tarek El-Bawab serve in IEEE Communication Magazine Editorial team
- Tarek El-Bawab representative of TAOS in the ComSoc's Student Competition Program
- Please, see the ICC 2013 and Globecom 2013 sides for more

5 Awards

Certificate of Appreciation to Michael Devetsikiotis for 3-year service as TAOS Secretary and Vice Chair