Minutes
IEEE ComSoc Optical Networking Technical Committee Meeting
Hilton Mercury Room.
ICC 2006, Istanbul, Turkey
June 12, 2006
6:00 PM to 8:00 PM

Attendees: Byrav Ramamurthy, Piet Demeester, Stamatios Kartalopoulos, Pramode Verma, Hussein Mouftah, Hassan Naser, Tomonori Takeda, Hong-Hsu Yen, Jun Zheng, Yong Wang, Kai Wu, Mohamed Ali, Georgios Ellinas, Piotr Cholda, Andrzej Szymanski, Janos Tapolcai, Pin-Han Ho, Driss Benhaddou, Biswanath Mukherjee, Aysegul Gencata, Galen Sasaki, Yvan Pointurier, Maite Brandt-Pearce, Suresh Subramaniam, Isabella Cerutti, Andrea Blanco, Stefano Bregni, Mike Devetsikiotis, Grzegorz Danilewicz, Andrzej Jajszczyk, Wojciech Kabacinski

The meeting began at 6:30 p.m. Dinner was available at 6:15 p.m.

1. Welcome and Self-introductions

The ONTC Secretary, Byrav Ramamurthy, welcomed the members to the meeting. This was followed by a round of self-introduction by the participants.

2. Approval of minutes

The minutes of the last ONTC meeting at OFC 2006 were approved.

3. Conferences (where ONTC meets)

ICC 2006: The Optical Systems and Networks Symposium at ICC 2006 was jointly organized by ONTC, TAOS and CSR. The chairs were Piet Demeester, Byrav Ramamurthy, Stefano Bregni and Nasir Ghani. The papers were presented in 12 oral sessions and 1 poster session. Piet, Byrav and Stefano spoke about the conference.

The Best Paper award for the OSN symposium was awarded to the following paper.
OS0201 - Fair QoS-Aware Adaptive Routing and Wavelength Assignment in All-Optical Networks
Authors: Yvan Pointurier, University of Virginia, USA, Maïté Brandt-Pearce, University of Virginia, USA, Tao Deng, George Washington University, USA and Suresh Subramaniam, George Washington University, USA.

ONTC started the Best Paper award and now this has been adopted conference-wide at ICC 2006 for each of the symposia. The authors of the best paper award were recognized and given plaques at the Exccutive Dinner. In future, when the conference-wide awards are not given out, ONTC will continue to select and award the best paper in the optical symposium.

Biswanath brought up the issue of authors of accepted papers not presenting their papers at their sessions ("no-shows"). Authors of accepted papers must be required to attend the conference and present their papers.

There was a discussion on this topic by several committee members. No-shows must be tracked and confirmed in future ONTC events and the authors contacted to seek an explanation for their absence. In extraordinary circumstances, if the authors are not able to attend the conference, an alternate presenter must be identified in advance by the authors. In any case, the symposium chairs and the session chairs must be informed by the authors about this well in advance of the conference. If authors are unable to present their paper in person, their papers may be considered for poster sessions where the impact of no-shows may be less. ONTC (and ComSoc) will need to create a policy to impose possible penalties upon or blacklist authors who have several no-shows at ONTC/ComSoc-sponsored events.

GLOBECOM 2006: GC 2006 will be held in San Francisco, CA from Nov. 27 – Dec. 1, 2006. The Advanced Technologies & Protocols for Optical Networks Symposium organized by ONTC will feature 9 oral sessions and 1 poster session. The Co-chairs are Maurice Gagnaire, ENST Paris, Nasir Ghani, Tennessee Technological University and the Vice-Chair is Suresh Subramaniam, George Washington University. Suresh provided an update about the conference.

OFC 2007: OFC 2007 will be held from March 25-29, 2007 in Anaheim, CA. This year, again, OFC will be held jointly with NFOEC 2007. The deadline for paper submissions is in October 2006 and author notifications are sent out in December.

Biswanath said OFC 2007 will have room to accommodate more papers and additional sessions such as on access networks. The Networks category team will also support activities such as keynote and invited speakers in the symposium. Biswanath emphasized the need to enlarge the networking area participation in the conference, which is co-sponsored by IEEE ComSoc. He invited colleagues and committee members to consider submitting 3-page papers to the conference.

Mohamed initiated a discussion on the OFC review process. The OFC review process involved a few reviewers handling hundreds of submissions. The review process was different from those at Globecom and ICC.

Regarding the problem, Biswanath responded that the number of typical submissions in the optical networking category each year is about 150 (< 200). The papers are sent to the technical committee. The entire set of people in the committee takes care of the submissions. Biswanath encouraged everyone to continue supporting the conference and submit his/her papers. Both Doug and Byrav also said that the conference is very different from the others in terms of the length of the papers and the objectives. OFC is jointly organized by the Optical Society of America (OSA) with IEEE LEOS and IEEE ComSoc.

ICC 2007: ICC 2007 will be held in Glasgow, Scotland, UK from June 24-28, 2007. The Optical Networks And Systems symposium will be chaired by Suresh Subramaniam, Stefano Bregni, Wojciech Kabacinski and Admela Jukan and is co-organized by ONTC, TAOS and CSR.

Stefano reported on the conference organization process. He said the TPC is being formed, and the people who would like to serve in the symposium are being identified. The current process and schedule are satisfactory. He also stated that we had about 200 submissions to the optical networking symposium to ICC 2006, which is a record high. The major reason for the large number of submissions is that we attracted the physical layer papers to the symposium. We hope to adopt a similar policy at ICC 2007.

Globecom 2007: GC 2007 will be held from Nov. 26-30, 2007 in Washington, DC. Byrav announced that ONTC will again propose to organize a symposium on optical networking. Admela Jukan, Ahmed Kamal and Achille Pattavina were identified as symposium co-chairs with George Ellinas as the Vice Chair. Stefano suggested working towards reducing the number of symposia of the whole conference and organizing symposia with more fixed titles and objectives. Following this, Byrav and George responded that coordination across symposia and technical committees may be needed. Some flexibility must be provided in the selection of title of each symposium to the symposium chairs since the research interests and topics could change from year to year.

ICC 2008: ICC 2008 will be held 19-23 May 2008 in Beijing, China. ONTC will propose a symposium on optical networking topics. George Ellinas will chair the symposium with others.

4. Other Conferences

Broadnets 2006: The Broadnets 2006 conference will be held in October 2006 in San Jose, CA. Byrav Ramamurthy and Ahmed Kamal are the Optical Symposium TPC Chairs and Suresh Subramaniam is a General Chair. The Optical Symposium will also award a Best Paper award. Several ONTC members serve on the TPC and organizing committees.

ICTON 2007 will be held in Rome, Italy from July 1-5, 2007. ICTON has a special method to select the TPC according to different countries and numbers. Please refer to the official conference website for submission deadlines. Next year we will have a specific committee for optical networking at the conference.

ONDM 2007: The 11th Conference on Optical Network Design and Modelling will be held May 29-31, 2007 in Athens (Greece). The conference chairs are Ioannis Tomkos, AIT, Greece and Fabio Neri, PoliTo, Italy.

APOC 2006 will be held in Gwangju, Korea in September 2006. APOC is technically co-sponsored by IEEE ComSoc and OSA.

DRCN 2007 The 6th International Workshop on Design and Reliable Communication Networks, to be held in La Rochelle, France in October 2007.

HPSR 2007 will be held May 31 to June 1, 2007 and hosted by Polytechnic University, Brooklyn, New York. HPSR 2006 was held in Poznan, Poland with Wojciech Kabaciñski as the General Chair.

5. Journals and Magazines
Optical communication series in the IEEE Communications magazine and JSAC OCN series are soliciting high-quality submissions.

6. ONTC Website and Mailing list

We have a website linked with the official ComSoc website and comments are welcome. Please send any information (such as CFP or recruiting announcement) to Byrav for circulation. Postings to the ONTC mailing list (subscriber-only) can also be sent directly to ontc@comsoc.org.

7. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Minutes recorded by Pin-Han Ho and Byrav Ramamurthy.