Minutes for the Optical Networking Technical Committee (ONTC) Meeting
ICC 2015, London, UK
Thursday, June 11, 2015, 1:00 – 2:30 pm
South Gallery 29, ExCEl Convention Center, London, UK

Attendees: Admela Jukan, George Rouskas, Suresh Subramaniam, Zuqing Zhu, Arun Sen, Larry Xue, Vincent Chan, Steve Hranilovic, Ahmed Kamal, Luigi Fratta, Andrea Bianco, Koji Kamakura, Martin Reisslein, Maite Brandt-Pearce, Ken-ichi Kitayama, Zhengyuan (Daniel) Xu, Walter Cerroni, Jaffar Elmirghani, Burak Kantarci, Melike Erol-Kantarci, Elaine Wong, Yue Fei, Fahim Khandaker, Jason Jue, Biswanath Mukerjee, Cicek Cavdar, Irec Szczesniac, Michal Aibin, Krzysztof Walkowian, Brigitte Jaumard, Roza Goscien, Kohei Shiomoto, Mohamed Selim, A. Celik, Majid Safari, Lica Valcarenghi.

1.   Meeting started at 1:00 pm with lunch.

2.   Self-introductions. Admela presented the meeting agenda.

3.   Approval of minutes of meeting at OFC 2015.

4.   Conference updates

        Elaine mentioned that the review process for ICC and Globecom takes longer than other conferences, including OFC. George responded that the Conferences Committee of ComSoc has recognized this issue and has decided to move the submission deadlines later; for instance, the paper deadline for ICC 2016 will be in mid-October. Suresh mentioned that this later deadline will create a conflict with the OFC deadline.

        Jaffar brought up the issue of low/declining submissions to the ONS symposium. Vincent pointed out that submissions of networking papers to OFC has increased significantly over the last three years. Biswanath also indicated that he has worked with OFC for a long time to attract more networking submissions. Vincent mentioned that OFC has an agreement with JOCN to fast track the best OFC papers for journal publication. According to Biswanath, ONDM 2016 has also made a similar arrangement with JOCN, whereas Ken-ichi said that the best papers from ONDM 2015 will be invited to the Photonic Network Communications journal. Suresh suggested that the ONS symposium should pursue a similar arrangement with JOCN, and Vincent said that such an arrangement is feasible and would support it. At Admela's suggestion, Elaine agreed to initiate contact with the JOCN EiCs to discuss fast-tracking of ONS papers from ICC and Globecom.

   a. ICC 2015: The ONS symposium is chaired by Luca Valcarenghi and Polina Bayvel. The number of submissions was 94 (plus two papers authored by the chairs that were handled by another symposium) and 40 papers were accepted (41.7%). The

average number of reviewes per paper was 4.3. Admela's paper received the best paper award. Discussion on the ICC and Globecom acceptance rates ensued. The acceptance rate varies widely among symposia, with some symposia having accepting up to 47% of submitted papers. The participants agreed that a uniform acceptance rate across symposia would be desirable. The participants also expressed strong support for each symposium to be allocated a best paper award.

b. ONDM 2015: ONDM 2015 took place in Pisa, Italy. Luca gave an update. 88 papers were submitted, of which 9 were invited. 35 regular (not invited) papers were accepted.

c. ICC 2015 Workshop on Visible Light Communications. Steve gave an update on the workshop. 58 papers were submitted and 20 were accepted. The workshop took place on Monday before the conference. Steve said that the optical wireless community is interested in working together with ONTC and TAOS to find the best ways for them to become part of the optical networking community.

d. Globecom 2015: Globecom '15 will take place in San Diego, California. Maite Brandt-Pearce and Jean Armstrong are TPC co-chairs of the ONS Symposium.

e. Future IEEE conferences: Other conferences include: ICC 2015, Sydney (Krishna Sivalingam, co-chair from ONTC), GC 2015, Washington, DC (Suresh Subramaniam, co-chair from ONTC) and ICC 2015, Paris (Maurice Gagnaire, co-chair from ONTC).

f. ONDM '16: Ken-ichi mentioned that next year ONDM will take place in Cartagena, Spain.

5. Admela introduced two new awards for ONTC, to be presented for the first time at the Globecom 2015 ONTC meeting in San Diego: the ONTC Technical Achievement Award and ONTC Service Award

6. Admela announced that her term as chair ends at the end of the year. George will become the new chair, and Matt the new vice-chair. The new Secretary will be elected at Globecom 2015 ONTC meeting.

7. Other business: None.

Meeting adjourned at 2:30 pm.

Minutes recorded by George Rouskas