

Agenda for the Optical Networking Technical Committee (ONTC) Meeting

Post-OFC 2022

Date: Monday, March 14, 2022

Time: 1-2 pm CEST

Place: Virtual Meeting

1. Welcome and Introductions

Zuqing Zhu welcomed and thanked remote participants for attending the ONTC meeting.

Zuqing shared the screen and introduced the agenda of the meeting, emphasizing that this meeting is again held virtually since most attendees did not travel to attend OFC in presence.

Round table introductions.

2. Approval of the minutes from ONTC meeting from GLOBECOM 2020

(https://ontc.committees.comsoc.org/files/2022/02/GLOBECOM2021_Minutes_Final.pdf)

Moved: Luca Valcarengi

Seconded: Maite Brandt-Pearce

Minutes approved after votes.

3. Election of new ONTC secretary

Massimo Tornatore is elected as the new ONTC secretary and the election result was officially approved by ComSoc on February 25th, 2022.

Zuqing thanked Luca Valcarengi for his service as a secretary during his term.

Luca thanked the Nomination and Election subcommittee for handling the election process.

4. ONTC Awards Subcommittee

Zuqing commented on the ONTC 2020 awards that have been announced in the last ONTC meeting with GLOBECOM 2021:

- Malathi Veeraraghavan ONTC Outstanding Service Award
 - Dr. Jane Simmons (In memoriam)
- ONTC Outstanding Technical Achievement Award
 - Prof. Chunming Qiao, The State University of New York at Buffalo

Zuqing announced the call for nominations regarding ONTC 2021 awards, emphasizing that the nominations deadline is April 10th, 2022, and encouraging attendees for nominations that are to be sent to the newly elected secretary, Massimo Tornatore.

Zuqing opened the floor for discussion and suggestions on the topic:

- Maite asked if the number of nominations was high last year
- Elaine clarified that there was one nomination for the Outstanding Service Award (unopposed to give to Jane Simmons, in memoriam) and three nominations for the Technical Achievement Award.
- Maite provided some suggestions on how to engage the community to provide more nominations, and asked if it would be possible for anyone to nominate themselves
- Elaine expressed that she is not sure if there will be the chance to self-nominate, but that it would be of interest to find new ways to engage the community in providing more nominations
- Massimo asked if there are any constraints on the nominator, e.g., if it is a must to be a IEEE member
- Elaine clarified that there are no constraints and that there was a discussion about conflict of interest, however, as the community is small, it will be difficult to impose such constraints
- Zuqing encouraged everyone to send the names of nominees to Massimo

5. ICC and GLOBECOM conference updates

Zuqing provided statistics on ONS paper submissions for the last ten years in ICC and GLOBECOM. Emphasis on the drop in the number of submissions in the 2020-2022 timeline due to the COVID-19 pandemic

- Paper submissions to ONS have dropped ~29% due to Covid-19 pandemic (2020-2021 versus 2019)
- Paper submissions to entire ICC/GLOBECOM have dropped ~20% in the same time frame

Zuqing emphasized that there is a lot of competition from other symposia/tracks, e.g., SAC Machine Learning for Communications in ICC 2022 received 200+ submissions

Zuqing expressed his hope that the situation will start to get better, encouraged everyone to promote and support ONS, and opened the discussion for any ideas/suggestions to promote ONS

- Suresh proposed to make an attempt to talk with JOCN/JLT to have a special issue that would make submission more attractive for authors
- Zuqing thanked Suresh for the proposal and expressed the concern on the number of pages since GLOBECOM papers will usually have 6-pages and, since a journal such as JOCN has limitations on number of pages, it is necessary to have an additional contribution compared to the conference version. Zuqing expressed that this would however be a very good idea to promote ICC/GLC
- Luca mentioned that they have tried (with Steve Hranilovic), to circulate the fact that papers can be accepted with less than 6-pages but not sure if it made a difference in the number of submitted papers
- Zuqing expressed that it is possible to have less than 6-page papers, but it still might useful to distinguish long and short papers. Zuqing clarified that shorter papers have been accepted (4-5 pages) and, if they are very good papers, the number of pages does not make a difference and that it would be a good idea to involve the symposium co-chair to discuss and see what are the options to do this
- Suresh expressed that the deadline of GLOBECOM is very soon now
- Elaine expressed that you have to be mindful of the timeline and anticipate when the authors would submit the journal version and that it should be communicated to authors when the submission should be
- Suresh expressed that there is usually a long time between the acceptance and the presentation of the paper so it might be an issue and proposed that a possibility is to suggest to authors to submit the journal version before the presentation
- Ramon expressed that for ONDM 2020 there was a JOCN special issue and the requirement was that short papers should be the ones that are considered for an extension, however, raised concerns if it is good to wait for the presentation or not. Regarding ONDM-JOCN Special Issue, Jane was anticipating 9-10 months between the conference presentation and the publication in the journal.
- Suresh expressed that some journals (e.g., TON) have no specific constraints on the number of additional pages with respect to conference version of the same paper.
- Ramon expressed that we should see if it is possible to propose this to JOCN since Andrew Lord may potentially be open to this suggestion of not having strict constraints on page numbers.
- Suresh raised the concern on the number of papers to be considered for the special issue and highlighted that there is the option of having a special issue for the conference papers or part of some other special issue
- Ramon expressed that, for ONDM-JOCN Special Issue, both options were possible and that it depends on the number of papers that might be invited for a special issue. The number of papers to the number of submissions is what should decide this.

6. ICC and GLOBECOM

ICC 2022, 16-20 May, Seoul, S. Korea

ONS Chairs:

- Marco Ruffini (Trinity College Dublin)
- Steve Hranilovic (McMaster University)

Submissions

- 46 papers: 20 networks, 26 systems

Accepted:

- 20 papers: 10 networks, 10 systems

GLOBECOM 2022, Dec 4-8, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

ONS Chairs:

- NS Chairs: Suresh Subramaniam (George Washington University) and Anas Chaaban (UBC)

Submission deadline: April 15th, 2022

ICC 2023, Rome, Italy

ONS Chairs:

- Raul Munoz (CTTC, Spain) and Murat Yuksel (University of Central Florida)

ICC 2023, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

ONS Chairs:

- Nominations submitted to ComSoc

7. Other Conference updates

- ICC 2022, May 16-20, Seoul, Korea,
- ECOC 2022, Sep. 18-22, Basel, Switzerland
- GLOBECOM 2022, December 4-8, Rio De Janeiro, Brasil
- OFC 2023, March 5-9, 2023, San Diego, CA, USA
- ICC 2023, May 28-June 1, Rome, Italy
- ECOC 2023, UK
- GLOBECOM 2023, December 4-8, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
- OFC 2024, March 24-28, San Diego, CA, USA
- ICC 2024, 9 - 13 June 2024, Denver, Colorado, USA
- ECOC 2024, Germany
- GLOBECOM 2024, December 8-12, Cape Town, South Africa
- ICC 2025, 8 - 14 June 2025, Montreal, QC, Canada

- ONTC co-sponsored
 - 26th International Conference on Optical Network Design and Modelling (ONDM 2022) (May 16-19, 2022, Warsaw, Poland) <https://ondm2022.com/>
 - The 31st International Conference on Computer Communications and Networks (ICCCN 2022) (July 25 - July 28, 2022, Waikiki Beach, Honolulu, HI, USA) <http://www.iccn.org/iccn21/index.html>
 - OECC/PSC 2022 (Jul. 3-7, 2022, Toyama, Japan)

Zuqing asked if there is anyone of the organizers of these conferences.

Massimo expressed that he is a TPC for ONDM 2022. The main feedback is that there is a healthy number of submissions and was curious to hear from Paolo and Ramon about the number of submitted papers in previous years. Massimo said that there are more than 40 submissions for this year's ONDM. Ramon said that ONDM-2020 had the same number of submissions and that they were pleased with the number of submissions in general. Raul clarified that there were 54 submissions in total. Paolo expressed that also in ONDM-2021, the number of submitted papers was more or less the same. Elaine asked if the conference was hybrid and Massimo answered yes. Suresh was concerned is the current situation in Ukraine will affect the number of attendees in-person and Massimo mentioned that he traveled through Warsaw last week and everything was business as usual.

7. Journal updates and reports

- IEEE Networking Letters continuous submission
<https://www.comsoc.org/publications/journals/ieee-lnet>
- JOCN
 - New Editor-in-Chief: Dr. Andrew Lord, BT
- JLT updates
 - Integrated Photonics for Quantum Applications (submission open, deadline Mar. 28, 2022)

8. Other business and adjournment

- ONTC's nomination/endorsement for ComSoc Distinguished Lecturer (DL)
 - Application deadline of DL: Sept. 30, 2022
 - Submissions for the 2023-2024 DL Program will be open in Jul. 2022
 - Request for ONTC's nomination/endorsement should be sent to Massimo Tornatore by Sept. 15, 2022

Zuqing thanked everyone for attending the meeting and for their contribution and announced that the next meeting is expected to be on May 4th.

Attendees

Name
Massimo Tornatore
Memedhe Ibrahim
Zuqing Zhu
Anuj Agrawal
Carlos Natalino
Suman Kr Dey
Elaine Wong
Jerzy Domzal
Krzysztof Walkowiak
Laurent Schares
Paolo Monti
Luca Valcarengi
Maite Brandt-Pearce
Nelson Fonseca
Qiaolun Zhang
Ramon Casellas
Raul Munoz
Reza Najabati
Suresh Subramaniam
Yesuke Hirota
Fen Zhou
Majid Safari
Murat Yuksel
Ricard Vilalta