

12 February 2017

The meeting convened at 1:05pm PST (GMT-7); the meeting adjourned 5:15pm PST.

Rüdiger Urbanke

Stark Draper

Matthieu Bloch, Suhas Diggavi, Alex Dimakis, Stark Draper, Michelle Effros, Elza Erkip, Christina Fragouli, Andrea Goldsmith#, Stephen Hanly, Matt LaFleur#, Pierre Moulin, Prakash Narayan, Krishna Narayanan, Alon Orlitsky, Vincent Poor, Anand Sarwate#,

Shlomo Shamai received the IEEE Richard W. Hamming Medal. Martin Vetterli received the IEEE Jack S. Kilby Signal Processing Medal. Stephen Boyd received the IEEE James H.

Daniela Tuninetti presented the treasurer's report. While the 2016 ITSoc budget targeted a surplus go \$61k USD, as of November 2016 (the most recent numbers we have from the IEEE) the budget is in the negative by about \$28k USD. That said, \$100k USD was spent on new initiatives in 2016 which means that, operationally, ITSoc is "in the black". Final numbers for 2016 will be released by the IEEE in March 2017.

Regarding the 2017 budget we requested \$140k USD from our reserves (under the "3% rule") for new initiatives. IEEE approved \$105k USD. Generally these resources are intended to continue the broad outreach of the 2016 Shannon Centennial. Specific allocations need to be determined, proposals are welcomed. Overall, in 2017 ITSoc expenses are projected to be higher than income by \$94k USD. However, once the \$105k USD of reserve spending is accounted for, ITSoc will still be "in the black", operationally, which is important so as not to be "black-listed" by the IEEE. There is also the "50% rule" through which ITSoc can spend 50% of the previous year's surplus on new initiatives. The amount of funds available through this mechanism will become clear when IEEE reports the final numbers for 2016.

Daniela then reviewed the current membership and publication offerings. Any possible changes in membership dues or subscription rates need to be proposed by mid-April 2017. While dues and subscription rates have not increased for a long time (other than to receive print copies of the Transactions), overall dues and subscriptions amount to 3-4% of ITSoc revenue, and Daniela proposed to keep everything as is. There was a discussion about the cost of student membership, currently about \$15 USD per year. This is in line with related societies such as the Communications and Signal Processing Societies.

Michelle Effros first reviewed the membership of the various 2017 ITSoc Committees, announcing new members and reminding committee chairs of the few positions that remain open and need to be filled. Michelle then reviewed the bylaws and 2 (re) -0. (t) 0.2 -0.2 (e) ngby.2 (l) -0 (ma) -0.as ()TJ -0.

4) Rüdiger next introduce Mark Levinson, director of the Shannon Documentary, who joined the BoG meeting by conference call. Mark talked the BoG through a key aspect of the documentary, an imaginary interview with Shannon at the Shannon Family House in Winchester Massachusetts. This was a five-day shoot that took place in the few weeks just prior to the BoG meeting. Many of the props for the shoot were lent by the MIT museum and by Andrew Shannon. John Hutton played Shannon and wowed the crew and the Shannon family with his resemblance to Claude Shannon both physically and in his manner. Peggy Shannon commented that she really felt like she was watching her father being interviewed. This mock interview will serve as the core of the film, taking up about half the run length. The team has also conducted about a dozen interviews and is now in editing mode. A full-time editor is working on assembling the film.

There was a discussion of time-lines. The shoot took place on-time with no overtime. Most filming is now complete. While there are some small scenes left to be shot, e.g., a flash-back of a young Shannon, there is no dialog in these scenes and so they will be much less work. The final piece is graphics and animation. Mark is working with a pair of designers on this. Mark would love to have most of the film together by the fall. If things run smoothly that's possible. Initial pieces should start coming together in the next month.

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each were presented. The BoG provided feedback on the proposal, leaving the choice of the location to the organizers based on their further budget analyses.

There was a discussion about how developments in US border entry rules might impact attendance at ITSoc conferences, both inside and outside of the United States, and our professional society.

Emanuele then discussed a number of candidate conferences for technical co-sponsorship (TCS): Systems, Communications and Coding (SCC 2017), to be held February 6-9, 2017 in Hamburg, Germany; the Int. Symp. on Inf. Theory and its Applications (ISITA 2018), to be held October 28-31, 2018 in Singapore; the Annual Conf. on Inf. Sciences and Systems (CISS 2018), to be held March 21-23, 2018 in Princeton, N.J. After discussion the following motion was made.

“The conference committee recommends BoG approval of the technical co-sponsorship for SSC 2017, ISITA 2018, and CISS 2017.” The motion was approved.

Emanuele proposed a change in approval of technical cosponsorship. The general idea is for the BoG to delegate to the Conference Committee the power to approve continuing technical co-sponsorship of conferences, with only periodic review by the BoG.

: “The conference committee proposes to:

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entire timeliness and quality, compliance with IEEE policies, and financial health. This is also an opportunity to get suggestions for improvements and best practices. The report to PRAC was submitted on 9 January, the review occurred on 9 February, there will be another round between PRAC and the EiC before the report is archived by the TAB.

An Ad-Hoc Group for the self-examination of the Transactions will be initiated. Members of the group will include the EiC, the EE, the executive editorial board, and the two previous EiCs. The goals of the review are to assess (i) how to attract papers of relevance to a broader community, and (ii) how to increase the impact factor and the number of clicks on IEEEExplore. The group wants to have formulated recommendations by mid-April 2017.

Prakash thanked the retiring Associate Editors (AEs): Salman Avestimehr, Stephan ten Brink, Jun Chen, Sae-Young Chung, Sidharth Jaggi, Tie Liu, Chandra Nair, Haim Permuter, S. Sandeep Pradhan, and Osvaldo Simeone. He next reviewed the current editorial board, which consists of about 48 AEs. Prakash's aim is to boost the number of AEs to about 60, and next introduced a slate of candidate AEs.

: "The BoG is requested to consider a motion to approve the following appointments to the Editorial Board of the IEEE Transactions on Information Theory (see report of the list)." The motion passed unanimously.

Prakash told the BoG that he needs additional AEs in machine learning and in sparse signal processing. This was reflected in the slate of candidates presented. There was a discussion

After setting this picture, Andrea discussed effective strategies to “move the needle”. In fact, the IEEE recognizes it has a problem. Jose Moura (chair of TAB board) asked Andrea to co-chair an ad-hoc committee on Women and Under-represented Groups (WUG) in 2016. The Committee delivered its final report in November 2016, the top recommendation of which was to form the just-approved standing committee mentioned above, with sufficient resources and power to implement its recommendations. Other recommendations include: (ii) require data collection and track metrics on female and URM by all societies and IEEE activities, set targets, and track progress; (iii) build a repository for society best practices on diversity/inclusion, and incorporate questions about these activities into societal reviews, (iv) training for IEEE/society/committee leadership and staff addressing diversity, inclusion, and best practices, include implicit bias training; (v) create a briefing on implicit bias to raise awareness within the IEEE and beyond beyond, similar to Royal Society document on this topic (<https://royalsociety.org/topics-policy/publications/2015/unconscious-bias/>) or the one the IEEE Awards Board now sends to all its awards committee chairs , (vi) make the “face” of the IEEE and its marketing more inclusive, (vii) create IEEE-wide initiatives for URMs, (viii) support the creation of a climate survey for all IEEE members. Looking forward the IEEE can be a role model for the profession, a profession currently struggling to attract and retain diverse members.

In conclusion Andrea stated that individuals can have a big impact and encouraged all present to think what they can do to help. She stated that, in particular, “we need the guys” to advocate for recognition and representation of women, as they comprise the critical mass needed for change.