



- Article V, Section 1. The Membership and Chapters Committee will become the Membership Committee. The Student Committee will become a subcommittee of the Membership Committee.
- Article V, Section 4. The Shannon Award Selection Committee shall consist of the President, First Vice-President, Second Vice-President, and four other members appointed by the Nominations and Appointments Committee before January 15.
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prospective members. It shall respond to membership inquiries and shall periodically ascertain the opinions of the membership with regard to Society policies and activities. Also, the Membership Committee is charged with selecting an IT Society Chapter to receive the Chapter of the Year Award.

- Article V, Section 6. The Aaron D. Wyner Distinguished Service Award Selection Committee shall consist of the President, Junior Past President, and three members appointed by the Nominations and Appointments Committee before January 15.
- Article V, Section 10. The Conference Committee shall consist of the Society Conference Committee Chair, who shall serve as an ex-officio voting BoG member, the Society Treasurer, the President and 1st Vice-President as ex-officio members, and at least two additional members.
- Article V, Section 12 of the current Bylaws shall be deleted.
- Article VII, Section 1. Awards sponsored and co-sponsored by the Society shall include the IEEE Jack Keil Wolf ISIT Student Paper Award and the IEEE Information Theory Society Thomas M. Cover Dissertation Award.
- Article VII, Section 2. For the winner of the Shannon Award, in addition to the honorarium, the Information Theory Society will pay the winner's travel expenses and waive the ISIT registration fee. The Claude E. Shannon Award is given to at most one individual each year. A person deceased shall not be considered for the Award, although if the award winner dies before receiving the award, he or she shall be considered the Shannon Award winner for the year selected. The committee may choose not to give the award.
- Article VII, Section 3. The Information Theory Society Paper Award consists of an appropriately worded plaque for each author and an honorarium of \$1,000 for a paper with a single author, or an honorarium of \$2,000 equally split among the authors of the paper.
- Article VII, Section 5. The purpose of the Chapter of the Year Award is to recognize annually a chapter that has provided their membership with an outstanding overall set of programs and activities. The selection is governed by Article V, Section 6.
- Article VII, Section 6. The IEEE Communications Society and Information Theory Society Joint Paper Award (ComSoc/ITSoc Joint Paper Award) consists of \$500 and an appropriately worded

theory and practice, and quality of presentation. A Call for Nominations will be published in the Information Theory Society Newsletter and posted on the Society website at least 3 months prior to the submission deadline. Nominations must be submitted by the dissertation advisor and must include (1) a copy of the dissertation, (2) copies of all refereed papers (published or submitted) spawned by the dissertation, (3) a CV of the dissertation author, (4) a statement from the nominator on the qualifications of the dissertation for the award, (5) a maximum of three letters of support submitted directly to the chair of the Society Awards Committee. Nominations must be submitted by January 15 of the award year. The selection of the winning dissertation will be completed by March 15. The recipient will be informed by the Society President after the selection has been made, and no later than April 1. The award will be presented at the IEEE International Symposium on Information Theory (ISIT) of the award year, and will be announced in the Information Theory Society newsletter and on the Society webpage.

- Article VIII, Section 2. The IEEE Information Theory Society will uphold the IEEE Conflict of Interest policy as stated in the IEEE Bylaws.

**Motion:** Vote to approve the proposed changes to the Bylaws. Motion was passed.

4. Gerhard Kramer presented the report of the Publications Committee on behalf of Yiannis Kontoyiannis. The main focus is the proposed switch to moderate editing for the Transactions. Without moderate editing, the budget balance is currently at -\$35k for 2014. Switching to moderate editing would save about \$150k, and lets the society spend on other items such as initiatives and students. Yiannis (current EIC) and Helmut (past EIC) both recommend the move to moderate editing. A main issue with switching to moderate editing is that some papers (about 10-20% or 800-1600 pages) will still require full editing (for language quality). One approach to solving this problem is for AEs to decide which papers require full editing, with approval from the EIC. The authors of these papers are responsible for paying for the full editing. The IEEE recommends and uses PreMediaGlobal for these services, costing \$45 per page.

A short-term alternative to moderate editing is to impose a page limit. A long term alternative is to piggyback on the editing services of IEEE ComSoc. But this has complicating issues.

Discussion followed. It was suggested that the AE permit the author of a paper requiring full editing to

2014. Motion was passed.

6. Matthieu Bloch presented the Online Committee report. The Online Committee has discussed with Six Feet Up various ways of expanding its use of social media (LinkedIn, Facebook, twitter, etc.). The Committee is presently planning to add several additional features to the website: (1) the ability to share news items and events on Facebook, twitter, LinkedIn, etc. by providing convenient links at the bottom of each page, and (2) the ability to create news items from a Twitter/Facebook/LinkedIn post.

There are three proposed initiatives. Two initiatives come from the Online Committee.

- Initiative 1: Hosting, archiving, and disseminating media resources. Over the years, the society has accumulated many videos and audio recordings of plenary lectures and Shannon lectures, as well as several lectures delivered during the North-American School of Information Theory. Most of these resources are currently archived on <http://media.itsoc.org> and are not well integrated in the new website infrastructure. In addition, videos and audio recordings are archived in a variety of formats that make their dissemination difficult. The Online Committee proposes to develop a sustainable infrastructure to host, archive, and disseminate all past and future media resources of the IT Society. The objective is to integrate these resources to the existing website, to improve their accessibility and their visibility. This effort will complement the outreach efforts of the society by making these resources available to a wide audience. The Online Committee will interact with Six Feet Up (our current developer) to specify, develop and test such an infrastructure. A key aspect of the initiative is to make this infrastructure sustainable in the future, not only in terms of data storage, but also in terms of copyrights.
- Initiative 2: Encouraging online committee participation. With the deployment of a Content Management System in 2009, the IT society now relies on a state-of-the-art web infrastructure to facilitate the dissemination of information to the community and to support its various sub-committees. The analysis of the web traffic into the website has highlighted the success of the infrastructure. The Online Committee proposes to further engage the IT Community at large by integrating forums in its website. The objective is not to duplicate resources that can already be found online, but rather to facilitate and encourage discussions and question-asking on IT-specific material. In addition, other committees, such as the Outreach Committee, the Student Committee, or WITHITS, could also deploy forums for specific use. The Online Committee will again interact with Six Feet Up to specify, develop, and test the forum.

Given the ambitious nature of the initiative, the timeline for the specification, development and testing is expected to be a year (specifications will depend on the development slots available at Six Feet Up). The requested budget for both initiatives is USD 49,999.

**Motion:** Fund the Online Committee initiatives for up to \$49,999 until the end of 2013, with priority to enhancing and sustaining media content. Motion was passed.

Mike Casey presented a proposal on automated journal production. The goals of the proposed project include (1) determining the feasibility of (semi-) automatic conversion, (2) determining the feasibility of delivering full-text XML files, including figures and print ready PDFs, to IEEE, (3) prototyping an author-friendly environment, (4) prototyping a workflow for typesetting, editing, and proofing, (5) understanding and verifying the costs. The deliverable will be a report on feasibility and a plan for implementation. The phases of the project consist of: prototyping and conversion from LaTeX to XML (6 weeks), prototyping conversion to camera-ready PDF (4 weeks), and report on findings and proposal for the future. The estimate cost for Phase 1 is \$17,460 and the cost for Phase 2 is \$11,440, giving a total cost of \$28,900.

Gerhard posed the following question to former EIC Helmut: "How does Latex-to-XML conversion fit into the switch to moderate editing? Can we still save money by doing this? How much?" Helmut replied, "I see the switch to moderate/light editing as the first step in a longer process to an editing solution that is affordable and high quality. ... If the now project turns out successful this would bring down the editing cost significantly as Mike Casey told me that they could produce XML (which IEEE requires) at a fraction

of what IEEE charges. Of course, there are uncertainties .... But, all in all, I feel it is worth investing the money into the now project."

In the discussion which followed, Mike Casey added that IEEE currently charges \$90 per page on editing, LaTeX to XML conversion and PDF generation. A question was raised as to whether IEEE will accept direct LaTeX to XML conversion from the authors. It was pointed out that if the project output can provide both XML and PDF, then authors could submit both to IEEE. It was noted that IEEE already has LaTeX to XML converters, which are often faulty and must be corrected by hand. The proposed project is seen by some to be a good long-term path: going directly from LaTeX to XML and circumventing mistakes.

11. Discussion on the Ad Hoc Committee on the Padovani Fund. The committee consists of Mike Honig and Ubli Mitra. Mike mentioned that Roberto Padovani and Qualcomm initially contributed \$60k to the Fund, which has grown to \$70k. Padavani is now pledging \$40k more, and Qualcomm may match the pledge to bring the contribution to \$150k. Gerhard proposed that the BoG draft a letter formally thanking Roberto Padovani for his generous support of ITSoc activities. The letter could be delivered at the next ISIT.

12. Discussion on cost differentiation at symposia, workshops, and schools for ITSoc vs. non-ITSoc members. ITSoc membership appears to be declining and the Society is currently not offering preferential rates to ITSoc members.

**Motion:** The Society strongly recommends cost differentiation of at least \$100 for members and \$50 for student members for registration fees for IT society-sponsored symposia, workshops, and schools. This recommendation shall be put into appropriate guidelines. Motion was passed.

13. Discussion on ISIT Student Paper Awards. There is agreement that the criteria for choosing award-winning papers should be tightened, and information regarding the specific contributions of the various authors must be submitted for award consideration.

14. Discussion on geographic distribution of ISITs. The main issue is the ordering of ISITs and the process of soliciting ISIT proposals. 50% of ITSoc membership still resides in the U.S. Having ISITs take place every other year in the U.S. requires building a pipeline of proposals. Currently, there does not appear to be a desire to maintain a rule of alternating between a U.S. and a non-U.S. location for ISITs. It is recommended that guidelines be given to the Conference Committee to solicit ISIT proposals far in advance.

15. Discussion on ideas for encouraging paper award nominations. Currently, nominations are solicited from the AEs. Generally, there are few nominations submitted. There is a need to actively push the calls for paper award nominations.

The BoG thanked Gerhard for his services as President, and Giuseppe and Nick for their services as BoG members.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:43 PM.