ICC'20 Meeting Minutes
Monday 22, 2020, from 10:00 to 11:00 (EDT)
(Over Zoom – recording: https://bit.ly/31Y80tc)

Attendance

	Name	Affiliation	Email
1	Abd-Elhamid Taha	Alfaisal University	hamid.taha@ieee.org
2	Abdellatif Kobbane	Mohammed V. University of Rabat	kobbane@gmail.com
3	Adlen Ksentini	Eurecom	adlen.ksentini@eurecom.fr
4	Ahmed Refaey Hussein	Manhattan College	ahmed.hussein@manhattan.edu
5	Aiman Erbad	Qatar University	aerbad@qu.edu.qa
6	Amine Abouaomar	ENSIAS & University Mohamed V	Abouaomar.amine@gmail.com
7	Ayman Radwan	Instituto de Telecomunicações, Aveiro	aradwan@av.it.pt
8	Burak Kantarci	University of Ottawa	burak.kantarci@uottawa.ca
9	Cheng Li	Memorial University	licheng@mun.ca
10	Christos Verikoukis	CTTC	cveri@cttc.es
11	Eirini Eleni Tsiropoulou	University of New Mexico Albuquerque	eirini@unm.edu
12	Eric Renault	ESIEE Paris	eric.renault@esiee.fr
13	Hacene Fouchal	University of Reims-Champagne-Ardenne	Hacene.fouchal@univ-reims.fr
14	Hassine Moungla	University of Paris	hassine.moungla@parisdescartes.fr
15	Hossam Hassanein	Queen's University	hossam@cs.queensu.ca
16	Jalel Ben-Othman	Centrale Supélec	jalel.benothman@centralesupelec.fr
17	Kandaraj Piamrat	University of Nantes	kandaraj.piamrat@univ-nantes.fr
18	Khalid Chougdali	ENSA, Ibn Tofail University, Morocco	chougdali@gmail.com
19	Khalid Elgazzar	Ontario Tech University	Khalid.elgazzar@uoit.ca
20	Khalil Ibrahimi	FSK, Ibn-Tofail University	Ibrahimi.khalil@uit.ac.ma
21	M. Fatima Domngues	Instituto de Telecomunicações, Aveiro	Fatima.domingues@ua.pt
22	Marwane Ayaida	University of Reims-Champagne-Ardenne	Marwane.ayaida@univ-reims.fr
23	Mehdi Amhoud	Mohammed VI Polytechnic University	amhoudelmehdi@gmail.com
24	Melike Erol-Kantarci	University of Ottawa	Melike.erolkantarci@uottawa.ca
25	Mervat AbuElkheir	German University in Cairo	mervat.kheir@gmail.com
26	Moayad Aloqaily	xAnalytics Inc.	mzaloqaily@gmail.com
27	Mohamed El Kamili	EST, Hassan II University	Mohamed.elkamili@ieee.org
28	Mohammed Atiquzzaman	University of Oklahoma	atiq@ou.edu
29	Mohannad Alharthi	Queen's University	harthi@cs.queensu.ca
30	Nadjib Alt Saadi	UVSQ Paris-Saclay	Nadjib.Aitsaadi@uvsq.fr
31	Najah Abu Ali	UAE University	najah@uaeu.ac.ae
32	Nidal Nasser	Alfaisal University	nnidal@gmail.com
33	Pascal Lorenz	University of Haute-Alsace	lorenz@ieee.org
34	Scott Fowler	Linköping University	scott.fowler@liu.se
35	Selma Boumerdassi	CNAM Paris	selma.boumerdassi@cnam.fr
36	Shiwen Mao	Auburn University	smao@ieee.org
37	Shuai Han	Harbin Institute of Technology	hanshuai@hit.edu.cn
38	Sudip Misra	IIT Kharagpur	smisra.editor@gmail.com
39	Yoram Haddad	Jerusalem College of Technology	haddad@jct.ac.il

Guests

	Name	Affiliation	Email
1	Vincent W. S. Chan	President, IEEE Communication Society	chan@mit.edu
2	Stefano Galli	Director, Comsoc TC Board	sgalli@ieee.org

Agenda

1. Welcome and Introduction
2. Approval of minutes for meetings at GC20.
3. Report on SIG activities
4. Report on liaisons
5. Report on member activities
6. TC-involved journal/magazine publications
7. TC-endorsed conferences
8. Other business

A motion for approving the agenda was presented by Hassine Moungla and seconded by Jalel Ben-Othman. The motion carried.

Welcome and Introductions

The meeting was led by Adlen Ksentini (TC Chair), who identified the TC executive for the current term, namely.
- Chair – Adlen Ksentini
- Vice Chair – Abdellatif Kobbane
- Secretary – Abd-Elhamid M. Taha

He noted that the mailing list currently has more than 170 members in the mailing list.

Attendance was noted through Zoom participation list.

Approval of minutes for meetings at GC20

Prior to the meeting, the minutes for GC20 have been posted on the TC website for review. Floor was opened for remarks on the minutes.

A motion for approving the GC20 was presented Nidal Nasser and seconded by Eirini Eleni Tsiropoulou and Jalel Ben-Othman. The motion carried.

Stefano Galli advised adherence to quorum guidelines as per the ComSoc Bylaws. Discussion pursued, with clarification on voting/active/ordinary memberships in TC. In the case of subcommittees, the quorum is dependent on the subcommittee members.

(Updated ComSoc Bylaws can be found at the link: https://bit.ly/2O5RmQ3, while CommSoft TC Policies and Procedures (P&P) can be found at: https://bit.ly/2BIARXI)

Update on website, e-Letter

Abd-Elhamid provided an update was provided on the status of the TC website, i.e., https://commsoft.committees.comsoc.org/. Executive welcomed suggestions on improving the usability and ease of access.

For the e-Letter, as of the last issue, the first e-Letter for 2020 was released in May 2020. Second issue for the year underway. Members were encouraged to contribute.

Update on liaisons

Standardization Activities (Abd-Elhamid Taha): Members interested in contributing to ComSoc standardization activities are welcome. Other contributions include championing an SI in the ComSoc standards magazine, and occasional funding availability for standards-related research/investigations.

Report on SIG Activities

Merwane Ayaida reiterated the importance of SIGs, especially as TCB P&P states that "Special Interest Groups (SIGs) help the TC foster the scientific and technological development in topical emerging technologies within the scope of the TC. SIGs may be created to promote activities in well-established technologies."

To date, the CommSoft TC has six SIGs, as listed below.

SIG	Coordinator	Coordinator Email
Big Data Communication Software	H. Moungla	hassine.moungla@parisdescartes.fr
Communication Software for Vehicular Ad hoc Networks	H. Fouchal	Hacene.Fouchal@univ-reims.fr
NFV and SDN Technologies	A. Ksentini	adlen.ksentini@eurecom.fr
Performance Evaluation	A. Kobbane	abdellatif.kobbane@um5.ac.ma
Security in Software Communication	Y. Saaverda & J. Ben-Othman	jbo@univ-paris13.fr
ML and AI for Networking	M. Erol-Kantarci	Melike.erolkantarci@uottawa.ca

Members interested in joining any of the standing SIGs are to contact the respective SIG coordinator. Members interested in establishing new SIGs can consult the TC chair.

Marwane started by announcing the addition of a new SIG on "ML and AI for Networking", coordinated by Melike Erol-Kantarci, which was initiated shortly after GC20. The following items were noted by the coordinator.

- Appointed as Canada Research Chair in AI-enabled Next Generation Wireless Networks in 2019
- Selected to N2Women: 2019 Stars in Networking and Communications
- Leading three ENCQOR (Canadian 5G Program) grants since early 2020 on ML based techniques in networking
- Delivered 2 invited talks and 1 tutorial on AI-enabled networks in 2019
  - Invited talk at IEEE GlobalSIP'19
  - Invited talk at IEEE 5G World Forum'19
  - Tutorial at Ottawa AI workshop'19
- Appointed as an Associate Editor for IEEE Transactions on Cognitive Communications and Networking in 2020
- Organization
  - TPC Chair for CAMAD 2020
  - Track Chair for IEEE CCNC'20, Wireless Communications: MAC And Cross-Layer Design
  - Symposium Chair for IEEE GLOBECOM'20, Communication Qos, Reliability And Modeling
  - Symposium Chair for IEEE SmartGridComm'20, Communications and Networking Symposium
  - Track Chair for IEEE CCNC'21, Next Generation Protocols: MAC and above

The coordinator for the SIG on CommSoft for VANETs (Hacene Fouchal) reported the following activities.

- Special Issue on 5G and intelligent vehicles in IEEE Networks
- An European PKI for connected vehicles has been launched in June 2020
- Volgswagen has produced a common Connected vehicle (Golf 8) through the protocol ITS-G5

The coordinator for the SIG on Big Data Communication Software (Hassine Moungla) reported the following activities.

- Elsevier Future Generation Computer Systems journal
  - o Special Issue on "Information-Centric Network enabler Communication for Internet of Things and communication software ". Extended for May 2020
- IEEE Wosckshop around Big Data, AI, IoT, Vehicular Communications and Communication software in junction with the 17th IEEE International Conference on Mobile Ad-Hoc and Smart Systems (IEEE MASS - 2020) – Submitted.
- IEEE WINCOM 2020
  - o Publication chair

The coordinator for the SIG on CommSoft for VANETs (Hacene Fouchal) reported the following activities.

- Symposium chair
  - o CSSMA Symposium at Globecom 2019
- European projects on Cooperative Intelligent Systems deployment :
  - o SCOOP and INERCOR
  - o These projects will end December 2019 and Feb 2020
  - o Many advances have been observed
- A lot of issues missing for entire interoperability (security, coverage,, …)
  - o INDID (Funded from 2019 to 2023)
- Deployment of connected and automated vehicles
  - o Multiple networks : ITS G5/LTE/5G

The coordinator for the SIG on Performance Evaluation (Abdellatif Kobbane) reported the following activities.

- **TPC Chair** AHSN-ICC 2020
- **TPC Chair** AdhocNet 2020
- **General Co-Chair** WINCOM2020
- **Keynote** : JSN-Faculty of Sciences Aljadida initially scheduled for April will be scheduled later (due to COVID19)
- **Scientifique day in performance evaluation in mobile networks** at ENSIAS initially scheduled for April will be moved to November (due to COVID19)
- **DLT** initially scheduled for May will be scheduled later (due to COVID19)

The coordinators for the SIG on NFV and SDN Technologies (Adlen Ksentini) reported no updates.

The coordinators for the SIG on Security in Software Communication (Yesica Saavedra and Jalel Ben-Othman) reported no updates.

TC endorsed and supported conferences

Adlen encouraged members to relate any involvement on their side to any of the TC executive member before the next meeting.

To date, the TC has provided support to the following events.
- ▸ Softcomm 2020 (Flagship)– The 28th International Conference on Software, Telecommunications and Computer Networks 2020, Hvar, Croatia
- ▸ WinCom 2020 – The International Conference on Wireless Networks and communications, October, 2019, Fes, Morocco.
- ▸ WiMob 2020 - The 15th International Conference on Wireless and Mobile Computing, Networking and Communications, October, 2019, Barcelona, Spain
- ▸ ISNCC 2020 - The 2020 IEEE International Symposium on Networks, Computers and Communications, Ottawa, Canada.
- ▸ SmartNets 2020 - Third edition of the International Conference on Smart Applications, Communications and Networking, Glasgow, Scotland

Stefano inquired as to the "flagship" status of SoftComm. Adlen noted that was supported by the TC since pratically 10 years. Stefano advised to check if the SoftComm can be a fully supported ComSoc conference (not only technically).

As for the CommSoft's support for ICC and GC Symposia, the following assignments were relayed.
- ▸ GC'20, Tapei
  - – Boucif Amar Bensaber for CSSMA symposium (confirmed)
- ▸ ICC'21, Montreal
  - – Adlen Ksentini for CSSMA symposium (confirmed)
- ▸ GC'21, Madrid
  - – Hassine Moungla for CSSMA symposium (confirmed)
- ▸ ICC'22, Seoul
  - – Marwane Ayaida for CSSMA symposium (nominated)
  - – Nabil Benamer for Cognitive symposium (nominated)

For ICC'20, the following statistics were relayed for
- • Submissions: 87
- • Accepted papers – 35
- • Acceptance rate – 40%

For GC'21, the following statistics were relayed for CSSMA.
- • Submissions: 71
- • Accepted papers – pending
- • Acceptance rate – pending

Meanwhile, CommSoft is seeking highly motivated candidates for symposium chairs for CSSMA and NGNI in the following events.
- • GC 22 (Rio de Janeiro, Brazil)
- • ICC 23 (Rome, Italy)

Other Items and Discussion

Adlen noted that shorty after the meeting that calls for nominations will be announced for the following
  ➢ Best paper award.
  ➢ Achievement award.

Details will be announced in due course through the mailing list, with winners announced in the GC'20 meetingg.

Adlen also noted that election for the secretary position will also be held at the GC'20, with details to be announced through the mailing list.

Stefano encouraged reaching out to industry communities within IEEE such as SDN/NFV (https://sdn.ieee.org/). Vincent Chan noted that SDN is currently mature, with most of the work made in layer 3. Currently, however, work needs to be done in other layers (below and above), including work in orchestration. There are also ongoing discussion regarding merging ComSoc's NetSoft and SDN/NFV. Discussion ensued regarding relevance to the work done in CNOM, and work done in emerging technologies initiatives on software learning (physical layer) called machine learning for wireless, and network intelligence.

Relevant websites:
  • https://sdn.ieee.org/
  • https://ni.committees.comsoc.org/
  • https://mlc.committees.comsoc.org/

Finally, Stefano noted interest in TC members engaging with local chapters, especially to encourage to participation for ComSoc members that are not able to travel to ComSoc's flag events.

Meeting adjourned at 11:00 (EDT).