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# SPCOM TC Meeting ICASSP 2014, Florence

Tim Davidson, Chair

7 May 2014

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# Welcome

## Welcome to new TC members

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- Biao Chen, Syacuse U.
- Philippe Ciblat, Telecom ParisTech
- Feifei Gao, Tsinghua U.
- Shi Jin, Southeast U.
- Chandra Murthy, Indian Institute of Science
- Ahmed Sadek, Qualcomm, San Diego
- Mathini Sellathurai, Herriot-Watt U., Scotland
- Weifeng Su, State U. New York at Buffalo
- Cihan Tepedelenlioglu, Arizona State U.
- Pengfei Xia, Interdigital, San Diego

# Welcome Back

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- CY Chi
  - David Love
  - Matthew McKay
  - Milica Stojanovic
  - Wolfgang Utschick
  - Sergiy Vorobyov
- 
- Erik Larsson, as Vice-Chair and Chair-Elect

## Proposed Agenda, Approval?

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6 13:55 Paper award nomination process

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7 14:05 Report from Technical Directions Board

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8 14:15 Other business

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9 14:25 Review of action items

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10 14:30 Motion to bring the meeting to a close

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- Minutes of 2013 meeting were distributed last night
- Do you want to approve them at this time, or do it by email?
- Motion and seconder, discussion, vote?

# Minutes

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## Highlights of Chair's report

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- Propose a vote of thanks to Tom for his service to the TC over many years, including 2 as vice-chair, 2 as chair, and 1 as past-chair
- Propose a vote of thanks to those members who are stepping down, for contributing their ideas, energy and time to the TC,  
Paolo Banelli, Syed Jafar, Eduard Jorswieck, Ye (Geoffrey) Li, Roberto Lopez-Valcarce, Xiaoli Ma, Gerald Matz, Alejandro Ribeiro, and Wei Yu.

## Highlights of Chair's report

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Diversity issues of increasing importance in TC reviews  
(likely next year)

We are improving in most areas:

- Geography:
  - USA 12;
  - Asia 7,
  - Europe 6.5,
  - Canada 4.5,
  - Middle East 1
- 5 female members
- 2 industrial members.

## TC subcommittees

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- Given the large number of retirements this year, we will need to repopulate some of our subcommittees. In particular
  - Awards subcommittee
  - Marconi Award subcommittee (AEs for TWC)
  - Nominations and Elections subcommittee
  - Newsletter subcommittee
  - Education subcommittee
  - Website subcommittee
  - Regional representatives
  - Student subcommittee
- At this point Erik and I are looking for expressions of interest

## TC subcommittees

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# Nominations

- Successful:
  - Best paper award: Heath *et al.*, MU-MIMO, distributed antennas
  - Young author best paper award: Lin, with Manton and Scaglione, Distributed principle subspace estimation
  - Signal Processing Letters Best Paper Award: Zheng, Wong, Paulraj and Ottersten, Collaborative relay beamforming
- Unsuccessful:
  - Magazine Best Paper Award: Saad *et al.*, Coalitional Game Theory
- No nomination (potential issue in TC review)
  - Fourier Award
  - Society Award
  - Technical Achievement Award
  - Distinguished Lecturer
  - (Magazine Best Column)

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# New Fellows

## Congratulations to

- Shungguang (Robert) Cui
- Shengli Zhou
  
- Syed Jafar
- Wei Yu
  
- Philip Schniter

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- **ICASSP 2014:** Most submissions since 2006  
A few more than last year  
Our TC provided 11.6% of submissions  
Large review load, despite service from new members and affiliates  
Will need to expand reviewer pool for 2015  
Any preference for EDAS over CMS?
- **SPAWC 2014:** Significant drop in submissions  
Modest number of submissions from TC members
- **GlobalSIP 2014:** 6 of 13 symposia from SPCOM area  
Many TC members involved.  
Up from 5 of 18 symposia last year

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Please refer to page 4 of Chairs report for a preliminary time line for TC activities

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- **Sigport:** arxiv for SP; but there will be a small fee; Min Wu will be “editor”; will start late in 2014
- **GlobalSIP:** Continuing discussion of TCs moving workshops to GlobalSIP. Process for doing so is evolving
- **Conf. paper standardization:** 4 pages, plus 1 of refs  
Can be spconf.sty; will apply to SPAWC  
Note that SPL is also now 4 + 1
- **SigView:** portals for video tutorials



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- **Two new journals of interest:**
  - IEEE Transactions on Signal and Information Processing over Networks
  - IEEE Transactions on Cognitive Communications and Networks (SPS: 20%)
- **Two new awards:**
  - Overview Paper Award
  - Sustained Impact Paper Award
- **Community building**
  - Wikipedia project
  - SP CUP, or SP Grand Challenges

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## Other activities

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I am representing the Society on the Software Defined Networks Working Group

Somewhat of a defensive move on behalf of Society as their proposal for an IEEE New Initiative started to broaden to include “software defined everything”

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- General Co-Chairs: Wei Yu, Tim Davidson
- TPC Chairs: Eduard Jorswieck and Akbar Sayeed
- Finance Chair: Min Dong
- Publications Chair: Aldo Scutari
- Local Arrangements: Ramy Gohary
  
- Paper review process completed  
Thank you very much for your reviews
  
- Program being assembled

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- Plenary speakers:
  - Nihar Jindal, Broadcom
  - Frank Kschischang, U. Toronto, nonlinear Fourier transform
  - Upamanyu Madhow, UCSB, 60GHz
  - Tom Marzetta, Bell Labs, Massive MIMO
  - Peiyong Zhu, Huawei Global 5G Research Program, 5G
- Expert panel on 5G: Huawei, Samsung, Broadcom, TELUS (maybe more)
- Reasonable registration: CA\$650/\$325, includes Sun reception, Tues banquet, lunch each day
- Cheap accommodation options through U. Toronto

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- **Modest number of submissions this year  
121, previous years: 241, 171, 213**
- Modest number of submissions from TC members  
only 7 TC members submitted papers
- Advertised in ComSoc and IT communities  
with modest success (almost all local)
- **Discussion**
  - Is this a blip, or is this something of concern?
  - Any suggestions re: timing, geography, advertising, etc,  
for SPAWC 2015+?

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6 13:55 Paper award nomination process  
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- Proposal to hold SPAWC 2015 in Stockholm: Joakim

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## Call for expressions of interest in hosting SPAWC 2016

### Related conferences:

- ICASSP 2016: Shanghai
- ISIT 2016, Barcelona, 10-15 July
- SAM 2016 ?
- ICC 2016, Kuala Lumpur
- Infocom 2016, San Francisco, 10-15 Apr 2016

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## Cap on re-election

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- In response to review of TC in 2011 we introduced a cap on renewals
- In short, if  $M$  positions open, renewals limited to  $\lceil M/3 \rceil$
- If not enough “approved” candidates in place, more renewals possible
- Vote to make this change was close, 13/12/1

### Discussion:

- This year was the first year that the cap became active
- Are we happy with this?

## Cap on re-election

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**Rule that we cannot nominate one of our own came into effect last year**

The public track remains an option for nominating our own

As of last week, we can nominate/endorse more than one nomination. This may require a modification of our procedures

The nomination form for papers will continue to contain citation information

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## Discussion:

### How should we handle nominations for new awards

- Overview paper award
  - Call for nominations within TC?
  - Citation analysis with review/overview/tutorial in title to generate candidates?
  - Hopefully a small pool
    - Do we want award review, or should these papers be known?
    - Perhaps single selection round; then consensus
- Sustained impact award
  - I suspect that citations will be important here
  - Perhaps combine nominations and citation analysis to generate candidates
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# Marconi Award

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- Overlooked this year, despite procedures being in place
- We will formalize the committee shortly and get this going in Dec 2014/Jan 2015



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# Summary of calls for nominations

Will follow up by email

- **Distinguished lecturer:** Now, vote last week of May
- **Society paper awards:** Now, final votes in August
  - BPA, YABPA (society's journals, TSP/JSTSP)
  - Magazine BPA, BCA
  - SP Letters BPA
  - Overview
  - Sustained impact
- **Society career awards:** Now, final votes in August
  - Society
  - Technical achievement
  - Service
  - Education
- **IEEE Career award:** Fourier. Later, final votes in Jan
- **SPS/Comsoc Marconi paper award:**  
Final votes in early Feb

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- **We have refined our process in the last year**
- Still, a large number of papers on the slate,  
Means a large number of award level reviews
- **Proposed refinement**  
implicit in last year's discussion
  - Each TC member nominally limited to selecting at most two papers from scan review
  - If a member wants to select a third, justification needed
  - Still expect most TC members will not select any of the papers assigned to them

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- Proposal for uniform award selection procedure still going, but moving slowly
- SIGs: Big Data, Internet of Things
- Do we want a formal SPS rep on IEEE Standards Board?
- Community building:
  - we have second largest affiliate member list
  - what “value” to we provide to Affiliate members?
  - LinkedIn group?
- Fluid surveys?

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- **Society name: Blog on Society web page**
  - adding “information” has support
  - might not be adding enough for Society objectives
- Conference quality control
  - Push for max 50% acceptance at workshops as well as ICASSP
  - Need to be careful with technical co-sponsorship. Does involve some financial risk to Society, but some financial reward, too
- Motivating conference attendance
  - Hold a competition
  - Submissions to competition not reviewed or published, but set up a prize



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# Looking forward to seeing you in Toronto and Brisbane