

President's Report

Frank R. Kschischang

Board of Governors Meeting
Champaign, IL, September 28, 2010

State of the Society

We are in good shape.

Financial health: good (but we need to keep an eye on publications revenues)

Transactions: technical quality remains high

Conferences and workshops: strong

Member services (student committee, outreach, online, WithITs) — IEEE-leading

Some Great News

Thanks to an impressive 2010 Information Theory Summer School, Roberto Padovani was inspired to make a further financial contribution to the Society, to be matched by Qualcomm.

This will be applied to the IEEE Information Theory Society Padovani Lecturer Program Fund.

Thank you Roberto (and Qualcomm)!

Thank you to Aylin Yener and Gerhard Kramer for organizing a workshop that inspires this type of contribution!

ScholarOne Manuscripts Went Live

ScholarOne Manuscripts went live in late August. The transition appears to be proceeding smoothly, with EIC Helmut Bölcskei reporting “no particular problems” so far. (But our experience is so far limited.)

All new submissions are taking place via ScholarOne, papers “in the pipe” remain in Pareja.

Many thanks to: Alex Grant, Aria Nosratinia, Georgio Taricco and Adrian van Wijngaarden, who did the initial study of alternatives to Pareja and recommended ScholarOne.

And many thanks to: Alex, Adrian, Andrea Golsmith, Helmut Bölcskei who served as the IT Society “customization and transition team.”

- Your president attends 3 Technical Activities Board meetings annually
- next ITSoc review: 2012
- open access publishing concerns IEEE. Here is IEEE's policy statement.
 - open access can coexist with traditional publishing
 - open access is best done on existing platforms of publishers
 - public access must respect intellectual property rights
 - IEEE will continue to experiment and monitor impact of OA
 - IEEE will engage in dialogue to ensure the publication of high-quality peer-reviewed, financially-sustainable journals

The case of Kirill Yurkov

Summary: Kirill Yurkov from St. Petersburg, Russia, has applied to a refund of registration fees (\$850) for ISIT 2010, due to the fact that he could not attend Austin because his US Visa was not issued in time.

Recommendation: That the Board of Governors approves this request.

Timeline:

- applied for visa one month prior to ISIT (could not get passport earlier)
- went for interview to US consulate in St. Petersburg — told of delay due to the fact that he is working data compression!
- both Rolf Johannesson and Dave Forney intervened.
- the visa was eventually issued — too late.