

Conference Committee Report

IEEE Information Theory Society BoG Meeting 18 March 2009

Committee Members

João Barros
Dan Costello
Anthony Ephrimides
Bruce Hajek (Incoming Chair from ISIT Seoul 2009)
Alex Grant (Outgoing Chair)

Symposia

Summary

| | | |
|------|---------------|---|
| 2008 | Toronto | No report received |
| 2009 | Seoul | Report received from V. Poor. See update below. |
| 2010 | Austin | No report received |
| 2011 | St Petersburg | "Nothing to report. A. Ephremides will be seeing Blinovsky later in the spring" |
| 2012 | Cambridge | No report received |
| 2013 | Turkey | Report received from E. Erkip. See update below. |
| 2014 | | Nothing planned yet |

2009 Seoul (V. Poor)

Submissions are healthy: **964** papers, as compared with 993 for Toronto. This small decline is probably more to do with the location than with the economy. I believe the 993 was an all-time record.

The main financial issues arising from the economic downturn are the effects on the local IT community of the drop in the Won, and the difficulty in obtaining external sponsorship from companies and agencies in the US and Korea. The latter has been offset by the decline in the Won, since our expenses are largely in Won and our income will be largely in US\$ (the registration fee was set in USD, which in hindsight was very beneficial). We are still expecting a surplus at this point.

In order not to disadvantage attendees from the host country, it is proposed that local Korean delegates can pay a reduced registration in Won (still ensuring that they cover per-head costs). This is supported by the Conference Committee and the Treasurer. We are following up with IEEE to make sure this is permitted.

2013 Turkey (E. Erkip)

It is proposed to change the venue from Istanbul to Antalya. The venue in Istanbul appears to be a monopoly, and extended negotiations were unsuccessful in obtaining a better deal. The change in venue allows much greater flexibility in the budget. The revised budget

achieves a surplus of 17%, where previously it was not possible to even balance the budget. The organizers are planning a site visit to Antalya in the next few months.

The change in venue is strongly supported by the Conference Committee.

Workshops

Summary

| | | |
|------|----------|---|
| 2008 | Porto | Surplus transfer requested by IEEE. Books will be closed shortly. |
| 2009 | Volos | See below |
| 2009 | Taormina | See below |
| 2010 | Dublin | Updated proposal received, see below. |
| 2010 | Cairo | “Close to finalizing the details of the hotel and TPC”. Hesham El Gamal reports that he will be providing a proposal. |

2009 Volos (Update from B. Hajek)

There were **100** papers submitted to ITW Volos, which is around what we expected. I understand that somewhere around 50 or 60 will be accepted. There are also 30 invited speakers. There's no specific indication at this point of anything that would cause a financial loss for the workshop. Since it is being held on a university campus, there is quite a bit of flexibility regarding the facilities.

2009 Taormina (E. Biglieri)

Workshop is on track. The organizers have been instructed to re-introduce a 10% contingency. Submissions are still open.

2010 Dublin (M. Greferath)

A preliminary budget has been received from M. Greferath. This looks to be a good starting point, but the following issues need to be addressed (1) The budget assumed almost no student attendance (2) 10% contingency needs to be achieved.

It is proposed that the BoG approve Dublin as a venue for ITW 2010, and the conference committee will work with the organizers to produce a more detailed budget addressing the above issues for approval in Seoul.

Committee Matters

Officer's task list has been updated and significantly expanded. This was presented at the Officer's meeting at ITA.

A. Grant will complete his three-year term as Chair. Bruce Hajek will take over as Chair from the Seoul BoG meeting.