Report on ITSec Schools

Parastoo Sadeghi, Schools Subcommittee Chair
Christian Senger, Schools Subcommittee Member
Matthieu Bloch, Second VP, Ex-officio
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2020 IEEE European School of Information Theory (ESIT2020) - Virtual School, November 23 to 27, 2020

- [https://www.inue.uni-stuttgart.de/esit2020/](https://www.inue.uni-stuttgart.de/esit2020/)
- 159 registered participants
- **Total expenditure:** ~Euro4,000
- **About Euro11,000 surplus on original allocated ITSoC funds (had been received prior to the pandemic)**
- Pre-recorded lectures, online Q&A sessions managed via Vimeo streaming + Zoom
- A document on School experiences has been prepared and shared with the Schools subcommittee and School organisers in 2021
- Lecturers (long lectures):
  - Alexios Balatsoukas-Stimming; (Jakob Hoydis, Sebastian Cammerer, Sebastian Dörner, Tim Uhlemann); Swanand Kadhe; Sennur Ulukus; Ayfer Ö zgür ([2020 Goldsmith Lecturer](https://www.inue.uni-stuttgart.de/esit2020/)); David Sutter
- Lecturers (short lectures):
  - Reinhard Heckel; Laurent Schmalen
Virtual North American School of Information Theory (NASIT),
June 21-25, 2021

• [http://conferences.ece.ubc.ca/nasit2020/](http://conferences.ece.ubc.ca/nasit2020/)

• There is enough local sponsorship and **no funds are requested from ITSoc**. (Note that originally USD10K was approved for an in-person School in July 2019.) See supplementary material.

• Lectures are going to run fully live. There will also be some student poster sessions. See supplementary material.

• Confirmed lecturers:
  
  • Michelle Effros; Negar Kiyavash; Douglas Stebila; David Tse *(2020 Padovani Lecturer)*; Wei Yu; Lizhong Zheng.
Virtual JTG/IEEE IT Society Summer School in India, June 28 to July 1, 2021

- A funding envelope of USD6K is requested.
  - Note: format of school is different from other schools and may require professional virtual platform management. A virtual platform provider is being considered which has successfully managed a similar event. (Note that originally USD10K was approved for an in-person School in October 2019.) See supplementary material.

- Expected format: 8 hours of pre-recorded lectures + 1-2 hours of live Q&A per day per lecture + short talks by junior researchers, as well as general discussion forums.

- Confirmed lecturers:

- **MOTION:** IEEE Information Theory Society to support the JTG/IEEE ITSoc Summer School 2020 (delayed to 2021) with a budgetary allocation of USD6,000.
Virtual EAST ASIAN School in Information Theory (EASIT), August 3-6, 2021

• A new ITSoc initiative.

• Funds requested from ITSoc is USD3,600. See supplementary material. (Note that originally USD20K was approved in July 2019 as a new initiative).

• Lectures will be pre-recorded. During the school lecturers will go over their lectures again live with pauses and allow for Q&A. There is also some student poster sessions. See supplementary material.

• Confirmed lecturers: Changho Suh (DL); Vincent Tan; Lalitha Sankar (DL); Deniz Gunduz (DL); Yuejie Chi (2021 Goldsmith Lecturer).

• MOTION: IEEE Information Theory Society to support the 2020 (delayed to 2021) EAST ASIAN School in Information Theory (EASIT) with a budgetary allocation of USD3,600.
Upcoming Schools in 2022

• **NASIT 2022**: In discussion with academics at UCLA to lead a proposal. Expect proposal presentation at the next BoG meeting.

• **ESIT 2022** was originally supposed to run in 2021 led by TU Vienna, following ESIT in Stuttgart in 2020. It is now postponed to 2022. Expect proposal presentation at the next BoG meeting.

• **EASIT 2022**: To be held in Shenzhen, China. Expect proposal presentation at the next BoG meeting. Host for 2023 TBD.
  - Note: at the time EASIT was approved as a new ITSoc initiative, HK and Shenzhen were nominated to host EASIT in 2021 and 2022, respectively. Due to timing of local funding opportunities, an IT School in HK in 2021 may go ahead with local funding only (as a Croucher Summer School in IT).

• **JTG/IEEE ITSoc India School 2022**: Expected to be held at IIT, Mandi. More details and confirmation to come.