Information Theory Society Membership Committee Update

Elza Erkip

October 2016 BoG Meeting, ISIT
Membership Committee

2016 Members

Ex–Officio and Chair (01/01/16 until 12/31/16)
Elza Erkip
New York University Polytechnic School of Engineering
elza@poly.edu

Member (01/01/16 until 12/31/18)
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# Current Distinguished Lecturers

The following is a list of the current Distinguished Lecturers.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2015-2016 lecturers</th>
<th>presentations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alexandros Dimakis</td>
<td><strong>Communication Rates for Phase Noise Channels</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Bounds on the Capacity of Optical Fiber Channels</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Linköping University, Sweden, June 2, 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Information Rates for Phase Noise Channels (including fiber optic channels)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Eindhoven University of Technology, The Netherlands, September 15, 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gerhard Kramer (2015-2016)</td>
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<td>Andrea Montanari (2015-2016)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Henry Pfister (2015-2016)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Emina Soljanin (2015-2016)</td>
<td><strong>Cloud Storage Space vs. Download Time for Large Files</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Arizona State University, US, September 11, 2015</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>University of Illinois at Chicago, US, November 6, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Aalto University, Finland, August 31, 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Network Multicast: A theoretical Minimum and an Open Problem</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Aalto University, Finland, August 31, 2016</td>
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<tr>
<td>Suhas Diggavi (2016-2017)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Babak Hassibi (2016-2017)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Olgica Milenkovic (2016-2017)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ron M. Roth (2016-2017)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Martin J. Wainwright</td>
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<tr>
<td>(2016-2017)</td>
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</table>
Distinguished Lecturer Program

• Upcoming lectures
  – Henry Pfister
  – Alex Dimak
Distinguished Lecturer Program

• Proposed changes
  – Call for nominations advertised on the ITSoC web page
    • Deadline in October, announce in December
  – Ask each DL to have at least one tour in his/her term (2 years)
Chapters Lunch at ISIT
Student Subcommittee

2016 Members

Chair (01/01/16 until 12/31/18)
Thomas Courtade
University of California, Berkeley.
courtade@berkeley.edu

Chair (12/01/13 until 12/31/16)
Osvaldo Simeone
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Student Co–chair I (10/01/15 until 12/31/17)
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Student Co–chair II (04/19/16 until 04/19/17)
Bernhard C. Geiger
I am currently affiliated with the Institute of Communications Engineering, TU Munich, in Arcisstrasse 21, 80333 Munich.
geiger@ieee.org

Student Co–chair II (04/19/16 until 04/19/17)
Mine Alsan
Contact me at minealsan@gmail.com
minealsan@gmail.com
Student Subcommittee

• ISIT 2016 Meet the Shannon Awardee Event
  • T-shirt and lunch served
  • *Interview with Prof. Holevo*
  • Around 150 students attended (estimated)
  • *Interview was recorded and will be made available online (currently checking into how we can get a copy)*
Outreach Subcommittee

2016 Members

Chair (01/01/12 until 12/31/17)
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Member (01/01/15 until 12/31/17)
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ISIT 2016 Event

- New event format: **Round table mentoring**
- Each mentoring table had two chairs answering questions and leading the discussion (**approx. 120 attendees total**)

1. Industry or academia (Emina Soljanin, Chao Tian)
2. Effective teaching techniques (Emre Teletar, Sergio Verdu)
3. Funding your research (Rick Brown (NSF), Nuria Sebastián (ERC))
4. Achieving work life balance (Anand Sarwate, Negar Kiyavash)
5. Time management (Helmut Bölcskei, Frank Kschischang)
6. Branching into allied fields (Alex Dimakis, Olgica Milenkovic)
7. Navigating the job market (Yury Polyanskiy, Giuseppe Durisi)
8. Navigating the tenure track (Natasha Devroye, Ashish Khisti)
9. The postdoc experience (Yucel Altug, Aly El Gamal)
## Many Choices

### Round Table Mentoring Event, ISIT 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Topic</th>
<th>Chair(s)</th>
<th>Room</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Industry or Academia?</td>
<td>Emina Soljanin, Chao Tian</td>
<td>402</td>
<td>Room 402</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Effect, Teaching Techniques</td>
<td>Emina Telatar, Sergio Verdú</td>
<td>414</td>
<td>Room 414</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Funding Your Research</td>
<td>Rick Brown, Nuria Sebastián</td>
<td>404</td>
<td>Room 404</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Achieving Work-Life Balance</td>
<td>Negar Kiyavash, Aasad Sarwate</td>
<td>408</td>
<td>Room 408</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time Management</td>
<td>Holmut Bölcke, Frank Kschinchang</td>
<td>402</td>
<td>Room 402</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Branching Into Allied Fields</td>
<td>Alex Dimakis, Olga Milekovic</td>
<td>404</td>
<td>Room 404</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Navigating the Job Market</td>
<td>Giuseppe D'Urso, Yury Polyanskii</td>
<td>408</td>
<td>Room 408</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Navigating the Tenure Track</td>
<td>Natasha Devroyan, Ashish Khisti</td>
<td>402</td>
<td>Room 402</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Postdoc Experience</td>
<td>Yiscal Allag, Aly El Gamil</td>
<td>404</td>
<td>Room 404</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Branching into Allied Fields
Navigating Tenure

Participants reported a small group for this topic but an intimate, frank, and productive discussion.
Time-Management Gurus
State of Mentoring Program

- Conducted survey of both mentors and mentees to assess the effectiveness of the program
- Response rate 57% (32 responses)
- Full results and our conclusions will be presented at the ITA BoG meeting
Overall, how effective have you found the mentorship program? (32 responses)

- 31.3%: Effective; changes not really necessary
- 31.3%: Somewhat effective; minor changes should be considered
- 15.6%: Not effective; significant changes should be considered
- Unable to judge: 21.9%
Women in Information Theory

Directory

This is a (necessarily incomplete) list of women active in information theory maintained by the Women in Information Theory (WITHITS) group (as of June 2016, Natasha Devroye). If you are organizing an event related to information theory, this list serves as a resource for potential speakers.

If you are a woman working in area of information science, please fill in the following form to add (or remove) yourself from the directory (or update existing information): http://goo.gl/forms/UYLbUpalT4kDofto2
Additions are almost instantaneous, but removals and changes may have some delay.

The Women in Information Theory also have a google group. See https://groups.google.com/forum/#!forum/withits

Natasha Devroye

Lalitha Sankar
WITHITS

• ISIT 2016: 'Samoan Circle' event
  – About 40 people.
  – Topics: gender and evaluations, bias in letter writing and nominations for awards.

• Allerton 2016
  – Lunch event focused on students
Changes to the Membership Committee

• Schools: committee by itself.
• Reorg of remaining subcommittees to facilitate interaction.
• WITHITS details currently not in the Bylaws
  – Under Outreach? Membership?
  – How is the chair selected?
• Update Outreach Committee mission and mentoring program
  – Junior Professionals
• Stay tuned!