

2014 IT Fellows Selection Committee

Committee Members: Helmut Boelcskei, Andrea Goldsmith, Tom Richardson, Emre Telatar, Raymond Yeung, Rami Zamir

Chair: Robert Calderbank

Report by the Chair to the IT Society Board of Governors: June 29, 2014

The Committee provided IEEE with a rank ordering of the 8 candidates before the June 7 deadline.

Committee Members were first asked to partition the candidates into thirds, a top, middle and lower tier. The Chair collected the partitions and represented each candidate as a histogram – so [7, 0, 0] and [0, 0, 7] represent candidates for whom we have achieved consensus, and [2, 4, 1] represents a candidate we need to discuss and to understand better. The candidate histograms were then ordered lexicographically and shared with the Committee.

In the first phase of the email discussion each candidate in the middle group was assigned to a committee member who drafted and circulated a succinct description of the candidate's outstanding contributions. The same process was then initiated for candidates in the upper and lower ranges. After the discussion was completed Committee Members assigned numerical scores.

The number of nominations is cause for concern. At the Awards Lunch this year we are recognizing the election of 17 IT Society members as IEEE Fellows but only four of our members were elected through the IT Society. When there are 8 candidates the expected yield is 2-4, and well qualified candidates start to make the calculation that their chances are better if their nominations are submitted to the Communications and Signal Processing societies.

Respectfully submitted

Robert Calderbank