IEEE Information Theory Society
2nd VP Report

Emina Soljanin

June 2017 BoG Meeting, ISIT
**Membership Committee**

**2017 Members**

Ex-Officio and Chair (01/01/17 until 12/31/17)
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Typically, in addition to academic achievements, we look for some industry impact, start-ups, or industry involvement in general.

The Membership Committee found Amin to be a perfect candidate.

R. Padovani said he was grateful Amin accepted to give the lecture.

Amin was not able to get a US visa!
Chapter Activities

- We received reports on activities from 17 chapters. Two recent chapters, Indian & NY/NJ, were very active.
- We have 2 new chapters:
  - Italy, formed.
  - Switzerland, approved.

Mine Aslan (Student Subcommittee) was very helpful in collecting chapters’ reports and maintaining the lunch attendance list.

Anand Sarwate has made a chapter location map for itsoc.org.

Chapter of the year is Sweden!
We have received only two requests for tours in this calendar year.

DLs have been invited to join the chapter’s lunch.
Outreach Subcommittee

2017 Members

Co-Chair (01/01/12 until 12/31/17)
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Member (01/01/12 until 12/31/17)
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Member (01/01/16 until 12/31/19)
Vincent Y Tan
Assistant Professor,
Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering,
National University of Singapore
Panel discussion “Your and Your Research” a discussion of Hamming’s renowned lecture on how to do great work”

The event was co-organized with Student Committee

Panelists: D. Costello, M. Effros, E. Soljanin, and E. Telatar

100+ attendees
Monday evening: “Round Table Mentoring, or “All the Mentoring You Need in 90 Minutes” Round table discussions with two experts per table:

1. Industry or academia?
2. Effective teaching techniques
3. Time management
4. Branching into allied fields
5. Navigating the academic job market
6. Navigating the tenure and promotion process
7. The postdoc experience
8. Life after tenure
9. Effective paper writing
10. Writing your book
11. Funding your research
12. Creating your mentor network

[A tweaked version of the corresponding successful ISIT 2016 event]
The subcommittee has been evaluating the effectiveness of the mentoring program and looking into how it could be improved. A Web survey of stakeholders was performed last year. The subcommittee has been consulting research literature on mentoring.

The subcommittee will submit a report with recommendations later this year (potentially to be discussed at the Allerton BoG meeting).

Preview:

- The subcommittee focuses more on creating time and space for mentoring to occur (like our 2016 and 2017 ISIT events) rather than maintaining a bipartite graph of mentors and mentees.
- The subcommittee help mentees to develop a network of mentors instead of assigning one
- Roundtable discussions at ISIT captured and summarized and made available electronically (in cooperation with online committee).
2017 Members

Chair (01/01/16 until 12/31/17)
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Student Co-chair II (04/19/16 until 12/31/17)
Mine Alsan
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Student Subcommittee Activities

- TA panel co-organized with Outreach Subcommittee.
- Organizing the 2017 Meet the Shannon Lecturer lunch at ISIT, with D. Tse. The event will be recorded and made publicly available.
- Outreach through social media: student/postdoc members heading up the Facebook and Slack groups for the IT Student Society.
- Designed Aachen-themed student t-shirts, to be distributed at ISIT.
In Jan. 2018, there will be

- 1 person on the Student Subcommittee
- 1 person on the Outreach Subcommittee
- 4 people on the Membership Committee

All remaining terms of service end in Dec. 2018.

The plan was ...

The Committee would continue to be headed by the 2nd VP. Other members and their duties would be one liaison for chapters, two liaisons for WITHITS, two liaisons for student and outreach responsibilities, and two to three students and postdocs members. Members’ terms will be of two years, and will be staggered. The exception will be the student/postdoc members, whose terms will be of one year.