IEEE IT Society Online Committee Report
(Pre-ISIT 2017 BoG edition)

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Online Committee Chair

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Report on past activities
Major events since ITA 2016

- Fixed bugs and other issues with new site rollout.
- Upgraded back-end and applied security updates.
- Developed a new chapter finder using Google Maps.
- Made site compliant with IEEE website guidelines.
- Migrated email over to MailChimp.
- Developed pipeline for sending Transactions TOC to members.
- Set up Slack instance for Membership committee.
Bug fixes, back-end updates, compliance

These were mostly minor issues:

- Some users have reported issues with links not working. We cannot reliably replicate this behavior even on the same browser/hardware.
- Several security updates and patches were installed as soon as they came out.
- Large objects/files were causing high latency – this was fixed by modifying the database schema.
- IEEE issues requirements for sites and our developers have been making changes to be compliant.
Chapters map

Society Chapters — Information Theory Society

by ITSoc Staff — last modified May 03, 2017 06:59 PM

Important information about forming your own chapter or how to get a Distinguished Lecturer to visit.

More information and help will be added in the future. The Online Committee's contact for Chapter Issues is Mine Alsan.

- You can find a chapter by looking at the map below or (on mobile devices) going to the list of chapters.
- Interested in forming a Chapter or need information about Chapters? You can form one through the IEEE. Every new chapter is given a grant of US $1000.00 by the IT Society.
- Want to invite a Distinguished Lecturer to present a talk? see the Distinguished Lectures Program page.
- You can find information about the Chapter of the Year Award here.

Map | Satellite

[Map of Chapters showing locations around the world with markers indicating chapters.]
We are currently set up to send two types of emails:

- **IT Transactions TOC**
  - EiC sends TOC to OE which is converted to HTML and sent manually.
  - 2642 subscribers (all members), 1043 opens, 205 clicks

- **News posted to website** (auto-syndicated from RSS + posts to Twitter)
Slack is a discussion/chat tool that archives conversations.

- Piloting using it for the membership committee’s discussions
- Capability to have private channels for other committees (but maybe not awards?)
- Might alleviate some email and facilitate more discussion.
Future plans
Promoting awards and awardees

The Committee requests that award committees prepare an announcement of the award, suitable for something like a press release.

- Description of the purpose of the award
- A citation for the specific person or work (e.g. for the Wyner award, some sense of the service they have provided)
- Optionally, some images/materials to make a “spotlight” on the front page.

This will help awardee’s home institutions make their own announcements.
More ways to reach out to members

The MailChimp and Slack tools give us new ways to reach out to our community:

- Creating special interest groups on Slack?
- Mailing lists for other types of (opt-in) announcements?

The Online Committee would like feedback/suggestions from the BoG on how to use these tools to help improve our membership.
Outreach to the general public

The Society has a number of activities around outreach to the public:

- the documentary,
- YouTube tutorials,
- children’s book

Should we try to organize this material online in one place? How can/should we promote these via our website?