

Information Theory Society Conference Committee Update

Emanuele Viterbo

San Diego, CA
February 12th, 2017

Thank you to past Conference Committee Members

- Alon Orlitsky (Ex Officio)
- Jeffrey G Andrews
- Stephen Vaughan Hanly

Committee Members in 2017

- Emanuele Viterbo (Chair)
- Rüdiger Urbanke (Ex Officio)
- Elza Erkip (Ex Officio)
- Daniela Tuninetti (Ex Officio)
- Albert Guillen i Fabregas
- Urbashi Mitra
- Brian Kurkoski
- Alfonso Martinez (to be approved)

Request to approve new committee member

Alfonso Martinez

Alfonso Martinez was born in Zaragoza, Spain, in October 1973. He is currently a Ramón y Cajal Research Fellow at Universitat Pompeu Fabra, Barcelona, Spain. He obtained his Telecommunications Engineering degree from the University of Zaragoza in 1997. In 1998-2003 he was a Systems Engineer at the research centre of the European Space Agency (ESA-ESTEC) in Noordwijk, The Netherlands. His work on APSK modulation was instrumental in the definition of the physical layer of DVB-S2. From 2003 to 2007 he was a Research and Teaching Assistant at Technische Universiteit Eindhoven, The Netherlands, where he conducted research on digital signal processing for MIMO optical systems and on optical communication theory. Between 2008 and 2010 he was a post-doctoral fellow with the Information-theoretic Learning Group at Centrum Wiskunde & Informatica (CWI), in Amsterdam, The Netherlands. In 2011 he was a Research Associate with the Signal Processing and Communications Lab at the Department of Engineering, University of Cambridge, Cambridge, U.K. He has been chair of the Spanish Chapter of the IEEE Information Theory Society since 2013. He is a co-chair for the 2017 European School on Information Theory and he served as General Co-Chair of the 2016 IEEE International Symposium on Information Theory, held in Barcelona.

His research interests lie in the fields of information theory and coding, with emphasis on digital modulation, finite-length estimates of the error probability, and the analysis of mismatched decoding; in this area he has coauthored a monograph on "Bit-Interleaved Coded Modulation". More generally, he is intrigued by the connections between information theory, optical communications, and physics, particularly by the links between classical and quantum information theory.

[BoG Vote]

The conference committee Chair requests approval

Meetings updates

- See the Conference Committee report for details

IT Symposia

ISIT		
2016	Barcelona	Closing the budget
2017	Aachen	budget approved - nothing to report
2018	Vail	budget approved - nothing to report
2019	Paris	budget approved - nothing to report
2020	Los Angeles	nothing to report
2021	Melbourne	nothing to report

ISIT 2016, Barcelona

- Waiting for budget closure
- Estimated surplus 34KEuro
- Final report ready
- Newsletter article published

IT Workshops

ITW		
2016	Cambridge, UK	Closing the books (expected 6% surplus)
2017	Kaohsiung, Taiwan	On track: plenary speakers defined, invited sessions, website, Edas, payments are all OK
2018	Guangzhou, China	Prof Li Chen Dept of Electronic and Communication Eng Sun Yat-sen University, Guangzhou, China Presentation by Krishna Narayanan (10 minutes)
2018-2019	Italy (Como, Venice, Milan)	Expression of interest for venue selection by Marco Dalai and Ugo Vaccaro Presentation by Emanuele Viterbo (10 minutes)

Future ITWs -- Interest from potential organizers:

Proposals for ITWs are usually approved 18 to 24 months before the workshop. ISIT future teams may be interested in organizing an ITW to warm up.

SSC 2017

Systems, Communications and Coding (SCC 2017), to be held February 6-9,
2017 in Hamburg, Germany

This symposium has been regularly technically
cosponsored by IT Society in the past editions

[BoG Vote]

The conference committee recommends BoG approval
of the technical co-sponsorship

ISITA 2018

International Symposium on Information Theory and its Applications
(ISITA2018), to be held October 28-31, 2018
in Singapore, Grand Copthorne Waterfront

This symposium has been regularly technically
co-sponsored by IT Society in the past editions

[BoG Vote]

The conference committee recommends BoG approval
of the technical co-sponsorship

CISS 2018

Annual Conference on Information Sciences and Systems (CISS2018), to be held March 21-23, 2018
Princeton, NJ

This symposium has been regularly technically cosponsored by IT Society in the past editions

[BoG Vote]

The conference committee recommends BoG approval of the technical co-sponsorship

Proposal for the TCS approval process

The current process to approve the TCS is rather complicated for the organizers and involves unnecessary delays to reach the final BoG approval. It also takes up some precious time to have many votes at each BoG meeting.

- [For discussion]

The conference committee proposes to:

- Request BoG vote only for **new** conferences seeking TCS or when there is not agreement within the Conference committee
- In all other cases where the conferences have obtained the TCS from the Society in the previous editions, the TCS can be approved directly by the Conference committee after verifying the conference has maintained its scope.