Membership and Chapters Committee Report

Gerhard Kramer

Presented at the BoG meeting
Feb 6, 2011, La Jolla, CA
2011 Members

• Continuing Members (2010-2011)
  – Max Costa
  – Michelle Effros
  – Amin Shokrollahi
  – Raymond Yeung
  – Lizhong Zheng

• New Members (2011-2012)
  – Shraga Bross
  – Nick Laneman*
  – Emanuele Viterbo*
  – Liang-Liang Xie

*New BoG Members
Tasks for 2011 and Issues

1) Schools of Information Theory
   – 2011 Taiwan Winter School, January (Stefan Moser)
   – Europ. Winter School, Barcelona, March (A. Lozano, X. Mestre)
   – NA School, UT Austin, May (S. Vishwanath, T. Liu)
   – Wireless Summer School, Oulu, July (M. Juntti)

2) Padovani Lecturer: Roberto and Committee approved the choice Rich Baraniuk. Invitation forthcoming.

3) Chapters: Chapter of the Year Award

4) Distinguished Lecturer Program (next page)

5) Three Issues for the BoGs attention concerning our several Schools
Distinguished Lecturer Program

- 2010-2011 Lecturers and Visits
  - Michael Gastpar
  - Andrea Goldsmith
  - Alon Orlitsky: Israel, China
  - Amin Shokrollahi: South Africa, Iran
  - Sergio Verdú: Australia

- 2011-2012 Lecturers (still 1 to add)
  - Toby Berger:
  - Max Costa:
  - Alex Grant:
  - David Tse:
Issue #1: School Approval

• Is BoG approval needed for IT Schools?
• Reasons for requiring approval (of NA School):
  – North American (NA) School is currently one of the Society’s largest events in terms of attendance and budget
  – Padovani Lecture is associated with the NA School
• Reasons against (in general):
  – Why fix what ain’t broke?
  – What about other Schools (South Africa, Finland, Spain, Taiwan, etc.) which are being run independently?
• Simple Suggestion:
  – Limit BoG approval requirement to funding requests and technical co-sponsorship requests
Issue #2: School Registration with IEEE

• **2010** School was registered as an IEEE conference. Reasons:
  – Move financial liability from organizers to IEEE ITSOC
  – Give organizers flexibility to tap into an IEEE account rather than asking the ITSOC treasurer to approve every payment
  – Get IEEE conference contracting support to shape large contracts (>25k as for 2010)
  – Registering is not difficult

• Reason for not doing so: extra work for organizers
• Suggestion: **Recommend** to current and future organizers:
  "That a School of Information Theory with a large budget and attendance be registered as a conference with the IEEE"
Issue #3: School Attendance

- In November, the BoG voted (12 votes for, 7 votes against, and 1 abstention): “That students attending the IT Summer School must be members of the Information Theory Society”
- But this motion cannot constitute an “act of the BoG” because our constitution says (Article VII, Section 2): “Meetings, conferences, symposia or conventions of the Society shall be open on an equal basis to all members of the IEEE.”
- So we must at least permit attendance by all IEEE members
- **Amended Motion**: "That IEEE Information Theory Society Student Members attending the IT Summer School have their registration (or other) fees reduced by up to the cost of IT Society Student membership."