President’s Report

Information Theory Society
Board of Governors Meeting
IEEE Information Theory Workshop
Baltimore, MD, USA
March 14, 2007
Thanks To

• Dave Neuhoff
• Steve McLaughlin
2007 IT Society Officers

- Elected by the Board of Governors (BOG)
  - 2nd VP -- Andrea Goldsmith, Stanford
  - 1nd VP -- Marc Fossorier, Hawaii
  - President -- Bixio Rimoldi, EPFL
  - Past President -- Dave Neuhoff, Michigan
  - Senior Past President -- Steve McLaughlin, Georgia Tech
• Appointed by President with BOG approval
  – Treasurer -- Anant Sahai, Berkeley
  – Secretary -- João Barros, Porto
  – Transactions Editor in Chief -- Vince Poor, Princeton
  – Publications editors -- Elza Erkip, Polytechnic
    -- Adriaan van Wijngaarden, Bell Labs
  – Online Editor -- Nick Laneman, Notre Dame
  – Newsletter Editor -- Daniela Tuninetti
  – Historian -- Tony Ephremides, Maryland
  – Information Officer -- Ubli Mitra, USC
  – Book Reviews -- John Anderson, Lund
IT Society Board of Governors (BOG)

- Giuseppe Caire, USC
- Rob Calderbank, Princeton
- Dan Costello, Notre Dame
- Dave Forney, MIT
- Alex Grant, South Australia
- Tor Helleseth, Bergen
- Ralf Koetter, TU Munich
- Ryuji Kohno, Yokohama
- Frank Kschishang, Toronto
- Andi Loeliger, ETHZ
- Muriel Medard, MIT
- Ubli Mitra, USC
- Prakash Narayan, Maryland
- Alon Orlitsky, UCSD
- Shlomo Shamai, Technion
- David Tse, UC Berkeley
- Venu Veeravalli, Illinois
- Ken Zeger, UC San Diego
State of the Society

• IT Transactions
• Conferences and workshops
• Awards
• Membership
• Finances
IT Transactions

- The 7.5% growth since 1990 has stopped (5776 pages in 2006)
- Number and quality of submitted and accepted papers remains high
- Editor-in-Chief’s report later (Vince Poor)
Conferences and Workshops

• Conference and workshops are
  – excellent
  – well attended
  – making money

• Not bid yet for ISIT’10: time to jump start the process

• Symposia and Workshop Report later (Alex Grant)
IT Society Awards

- IT Best Paper
- IT/ComSoc Paper
- Shannon Award
- Aaron Wyner Distinguished Service Award (Name OK)
- Chapter of the Year Award
2007 IEEE Medals and Awards

- Tom Kailath -- Medal of Honor
- Norman Abramson -- Alexander Graham Bell Medal
- Abraham Lempel -- Richard W. Hamming Medal
- Irwin Jacobs and Andrew Viterbi -- J. C. Maxwell Award
- M. Luby and A. Shokrollahi -- Eric Sumner Award
US National Academy of Engineering

• New Members Elected (4 of 10 from the E. section)
  – Bob Gray
  – P.R. Kumar
  – John Tsitsiklis
  – Sergio Verdú
• New Foreign Associate (one of two)
  – Kees A. Schouhammer Immink
## Membership

### January 2006

**IT Society**
- Regular -- 3171, -5.7 %
- Students -- 418, -14.9 %
- Total -- 3,601, -6.9 %

**IEEE**
- Regular -- 295,868, -1.2 %
- Student -- 79,730, +5.9 %
- Total -- 375,598, +0.2 %

### January 2007

**IT Society**
- Regular -- 3,122, -1.5 %
- Students -- 366, -12.4 %
- Total -- 3,492, -3 %

**IEEE**
- Regular -- 297,189, 0.4 %
- Student -- 87,734, 10 %
- Total -- 484,923, 2.5 %
Finances

- Very Sound: reserves larger than annual budget. IEEE recommendation: reserve = 0.5 x (annual budget)
- Treasurer’s report later (Anant Sahai).
- We should be thinking of ways to put some of the reserve to good use.
“Challenges”

• Quinquennial IEEE Review if the IT Society

• Membership: do we have a problem? No consensus so far

• Our main “product” (transactions and conferences) are in good shape: what else can we do to increase the value that the IT Society provides to the community (at large)?
New Initiatives in 2006

• Student Committee:
  – budget increased to 10K
  – Student paper award at ISIT’07

• For a three-year trial period, IT Society members have electronic access to Proceedings

• New Positions/Committees:
  – Standing Conference Committee (chaired by Alex G.)
  – Ad-hoc Funding Committee: (chaired by Venu V.
  – Online Editor (Nick L.)

• Transactions:
  – hierarchical table of content according to technical area
  – 5 page limit to Correspondence items. The discussion continues.

• Technical Co-Sponsorship: Negotiations with IEEE
Initiatives for (Consideration in) 2007

• Build/Maintain “Infrastructure” to Facilitate Business
  – Revision of Constitution and Bylaws (Neuhoff & McLaughlin)
  – Ad Hoc committee on Online Content (Laneman)
  – Technical co-sponsorship: MOU (Neuhoff).
  – Policy on overlapping IT and ISIT papers (Conf. Committee)

• Initiatives to make wise use of the extra reserve
• Initiatives Concerning Membership and Community
  – Membership ad-hoc committee. Proposal at ISIT’07 (Goldsmith)
  – Creation of opportunities for junior members and students
  – Encourage faculty to encourage students to join
  – A real Distinguished Lecturer program
  – Exciting talks, of educational value, by inspiring people, for various audiences (including undergraduates and possibly high-school)
Thanks