

# ITSoc Diversity and Inclusion (D&I) Committee

Report @ ITSoc Board of Governors Meeting, 06 June 2021

**Committee:** S. Draper (Chair), A. Yener (ex-officio), T. Coleman, V. Prabhakaran, N. Shah, M. Wigger

## **Updates since March BoG meeting:**

- **ITSoc Scholarships for undergraduates from groups currently underrepresented in ITSoc.**

- Announced 04 May: <https://www.itsoc.org/news/isit-scholarships-undergraduates-groups-currently-underrepresented-itsoc-0>
- Nominations due 07 June; we inform students by 14 June.
- Please nominate!

- **Events at ISIT'21**

- Working with Students & Outreach.

- **ITSoc D&I Climate Survey**

- As discussed last meeting, building on similar surveys in peer communities (e.g., NeurIPS), particularize to ITSoc and deploy in conjunction with ISIT'21, will consider issues of climate in ITSoc broadly (not just at ISIT); N. Shah lead
- Note: A separate survey from the Conference Committee Survey that recently went out. Originally thought we would combine, but due to difference in focus and timelines, deployed two.
- Will include conference-related questions in D&I survey that will complement the Conf Committee survey, as our focus is on D&I issues.
- Have also reached out to other committees for input: Conferences, Student & Outreach, WITHITS, Publications.
- Target deployment is in July, alongside ISIT.
- Following slide, extracted from March BoG meeting report, has more details on the D&I Survey, links to the NeurIPS'18 survey we used as one starting point, and the analysis of survey responses.

# Data: ITSoc D&I Climate survey

- **Team:** N. Shah (lead), working with T. Javidi & S. Draper
- **Objective:** Get data on D&I considerations within ITSoc
- **Peer Communities:** The Machine Learning community has been doing this for some years now. We have received permission to build off a NeurIPS'18 survey. Here is the link to that report:
  - <http://users.umiacs.umd.edu/~hal/docs/daume18neuripsdi.pdf>
- **Logistics:**
  - Want to deploy alongside ISIT'21, though survey will be broader than just ISIT-related issues.
  - Plan to use SurveyMonkey, e.g., works in China without VPN
  - Advertise via ITSoc mailing lists and other media.
  - Results compiled late July / early August
- **Timeline:**
  - Started revising NeurIPS survey to tune to ITSoc considerations.
  - Reached out to a number of committees including Student & Outreach, WITHITS, T-IT for input on any questions they would like us to add.
  - Committees have deadline of 15 April to get back to us
  - Initial draft by 30 April, run by officers / others, finalize by 31 May
- **Request:** Allocation of \$1000 for support of survey (purchase of 10 x \$50 give cards to incentivize participation, \$276 for SurveyMonkey account, + \$224 unexpected expenses)

**Motion:** “Approve \$1000 for support of conducting the ITSoc D&I Climate survey”