

Minutes
Optical Networking Technical Committee Meeting
Globecom 2005, St. Louis, Missouri
Tuesday, November 29, 2005
Room 220, America's Center Convention Center

Attendees: Jason Jue, Ioannis Tomkos, Tarek El-Bawab, Pramode Verma, Piotr Cholda, Luying Zhou, Fei Xue, Yabin Ye, Costas Vyrsoinos, Nikos Chrysos, Doug Zuckerman, S. Kartalopoulos, Dominic Schupke, Stefano Bregni, Brigitte Jaumard, Yuan Cao, Hussein Mouftah, Jaafar Elmoghani, Andrzej Jajszczyk, Vincent Chan, Wojciech Kabacinski, Ajay Todimala, Mengke Li, Qiong Zhang, Pin-Han Ho, Chien Chen, Chunsheng Xin, Xiaojun Cao, Chunming Qiao, Dilip Sarkar, Byrav Ramamurthy, Suresh Subramaniam, Tricha Anjali, Chang Liu, Yi Zhu, Seshadri Mohan, Maode Ma, Oliver Yang, Guoliang (Larry) Xue, Naoaki Yamanaka, Sema Oktug, Biswanath Mukherjee

Biswanath opened the meeting at 6:20 pm.

1. Self introductions
2. The minutes for ICC 2005 were approved.
3. Election

Biswanath described the procedure for the election of ONTC officers. There are three executive positions: Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary. When an election occurs, the current Chair gets rotated out, the current Vice Chair becomes Chair, the current Secretary becomes Vice Chair, and an election is held for the position of Secretary.

The two candidates for secretary were Byrav Ramamurthy and Tarek El-Bawab. Biswanath called for further nominations. There were no further nominations.

Chunming raised the possibility of having open elections in future rather than rotating the positions.

Biswanath and Ioannis read the candidate statements. Biswanath distributed the ballots. The ballots were counted and tallied with the following results:

Tarek: 9
Byrav: 30
Jason: 1
Chunming: 1
Blank: 2

Byrav was elected as ONTC Secretary.

4. Publications

JSAC Optical Communications and Networking Series

During the voting, Vincent Chan gave an update on the JSAC Optical Communications and Networking Series. There is currently a proposal, close to being approved, in which there will be three issues per year for the next two years. These issues will be Part 2 of JSAC. The expectation is that, if the paper volume is increased, the series could turn into a separate journal the following year with four issues per year. There will be a new cover for the series, and there will be an open call for cover designs. A prize may be awarded for the winning design.

An update on the paper process was given. Vincent is gathering statistics on delays. The time duration from submission to notification varies from four weeks to more than a year. The paper is sent to three reviewers, and usually one of the three reviewers keeps it too long. Statistics are also being gathered on reviewers. If they delay reviews too often, they are deleted from the list of reviewers. In some cases, the paper was so complex that five reviewers turned it

down. Also, some Associate Editors become too busy, so when reviews come back, the Associate Editor is not able to make a decision quickly. In one case, a reviewer gave one-line review, which is not acceptable. Associate Editors who are too busy to provide timely decisions will not continue. Next year, Ori Gerstel and Chinlon Lin will be added as Associate Editors. The following year, additional editors will be recruited.

Vincent encouraged everyone to keep sending papers. An email will be sent out regarding the competition for the cover design.

Andrzej announced a CFP for a JSAC issue on Traffic Engineering for Multi-Layer Networks. Everyone is encouraged to submit good papers. Biswanath is one of the guest editors.

5. Conference updates

a. Globecom 2005

ONTC sponsored an optical networking symposium entitled Photonic Technologies for Communications. Ioannis was chair, and Jason was co-chair. No other technical committees cosponsored the symposium. The symposium received 100 papers out of which 48 papers were accepted. 40 of these were for oral presentation, and 8 were for poster presentation. There was no difference in quality between poster and oral papers. The 48 papers were first selected, then the format of presentation was decided based primarily on topics. The selection of poster versus oral presentation was not based on review scores. It was emphasized that poster papers were not considered second class papers.

b. OFC 2006

Ioannis had served on the networks committee for three years. Biswanath and Chunming are both serving their second year.

Chunming reported on submissions. There were about 115 submissions for the networks track, which is down from previous years. Some papers originally submitted to category H (networks) were reclassified into other categories, such as access. This was done intentionally because category H had been receiving too many submissions compared to other categories. Among the submissions, about 45 were on OBS or OPS, and the rest were on traditional topics such as protection, restoration, grooming, SONET, and optical label switching. There is a TPC meeting on Thursday.

Ioannis mentioned that the review process is different for OFC. Each committee member reviews all papers.

OFC will take place March 5-10 in Anaheim.

c. ICC 2006

ONTC is sponsoring a symposium on Optical Systems and Networks, which is being co-sponsored by the TAOS and CSR TCs. The symposium Chairs are Piet Demeester, Byrav Ramamurthy, and Stefano Bregni. The Vice Chair is Nasir Ghani. Byrav reported that around 191 papers were submitted to the symposium. The scope of the symposium was increased, and papers were actively solicited. Almost all reviews have been submitted, and notifications are expected to go out in the next few weeks. TPC members were each assigned 11 reviews. The acceptance rate is expected to be around one-third. At least three reviews will be obtained for each paper. ICC 2006 will be held in Istanbul, Turkey.

d. Globecom 2006

The conference will be held in San Francisco, California. ONTC is sponsoring a symposium on optical networks. The Chairs for the symposium are Nasir Ghani and Maurice Gagnaire. The Vice Chair is Suresh Subramaniam. Suresh reported that there will be a planning meeting tomorrow and that a website for conference is up. The TPC has been formed. Biswanath mentioned that each TC has its own symposium. There are more symposia than in a typical ICC or Globecom, but each is smaller in size.

e. OFC 2007

The CFP for OFC 2007 will be announced in the coming summer. The deadline will be sometime during September or October 2006.

f. ICC 2007

The conference will be held in Glasgow, Scotland. ONTC is sponsoring a symposium. The Chair is Suresh, and the Vice Chair is Admela Jukan. Suresh reported that there will be 10-12 symposia. Each symposium is co-sponsored by a number of committees. The Optical Networking Symposium is sponsored by ONTC, TAOS, and CSR.

g. Globecom 2007

Globecom 2007 will be held in Washington DC. ONTC is preparing a proposal for an Optical Networking Symposium. The plan is to have Admela Jukan and Achille Pattavina as Co-Chairs.

h. ECOC 2006

ECOC 2006 will be held in Cannes, France. Ioannis and Piet Demeester are members of the TPC.

i. BroadNets 2006

BroadNets 2006 will be held in October in San Jose. Suresh is General Co-Chair and Byrav is an Optical Symposium Co-Chair for the conference. There are three symposia: optical, wireless, and general. The paper submission deadline is at the end of January.

j. ONDM

ONDM is usually held in February, but this year the CFP was delayed. The conference will probably be shifted to April or May. The conference will take place in Denmark, and Lars Dittman is the organizer. The CFP will be sent out on the ONTC mailing list.

k. BroadNets 2007

BroadNets 2007 will take place in Greece. Ioannis is the General Chair for the conference.

l. ECOC 2007

ECOC 2007 will be held in Germany. Andreas Gladisch will be TPC Chair.

m. HPSR 2006

HPSR 2006 will be held in Poland on June 7-9. Wojciech Kabacinski is the General Chair.

6. Best paper award

The first Best Paper Award was awarded at ICC 2005 for the paper, "Blocking Probability Modeling of Distensible Optical Banyan Networks" authored by Chen Yu, Jiang Xiaohong, Pin-Han Ho, Susumu Horiguchi, and Hussein Mouftah. Award plaques were distributed at the Globecom'05 ONTC meeting.

The Best Paper Award for the Globecom 2005 Photonic Technologies for Communications Symposium was awarded to the paper, "Analysis of TCP over Optical Burst-Switched Networks with Burst Retransmission," authored by Qiong Zhang, Vinod M. Vokkarane, Yuke Wang, and Jason P. Jue. Plaques will be distributed at the next ONTC meeting.

Biswanath reviewed the award selection policy. A selection committee is formed consisting of the Symposium Co-Chairs. The ONTC Chair acts as an observer. If one of committee member's paper is a candidate, that member is excluded from the selection process. If there are not enough committee members, Chairs from previous or following

symposia are selected to serve on the committee. Five papers are chosen based on scores, and the papers are reviewed by the committee members to select the best paper. The selection process was written by Hussein. The process will be posted on the ONTC website.

7. Standards

There were no updates regarding standards.

8. Web site

Byrav reported that the ONTC website contains the ONTC charter, meeting minutes, meeting agendas, and links to labs and centers doing work on optical networking. Suggestions for additions to the website are welcome. Hussein suggested that election procedures and the procedure for selecting the best paper award be placed on the website.

9. Other Business

a. US EU workshop

Biswanath reported on the US EU workshop held in Brussels on June 26-27. 15 researchers from the US and 15 researchers from Europe participated. The workshop co-chairs were Fabio Neri (representing EU) and Biswanath (US). There were also 10 observers from Japan. Three categories were covered: physical layer, network architecture, and applications/software/control and management. More interaction is needed between these three communities. The workshop is an important bridge between these areas. The workshop had sequential sessions with focused discussions on each of these three categories. A workshop report is currently being prepared and should be out soon. One goal of the workshop was to explore more collaborative activities. Currently US researchers can seek NSF supplemental funding for international collaboration on existing projects.

Ioannis mentioned that the idea was to exchange ideas regarding the future of optical networking and to discuss with US researchers how European projects were set up. EU officers were invited to the meeting. Besides academic researchers, several attendees were from industry: e.g., two keynote addresses were given by Andreas Gladisch from Deutch Telecom and Martin Zirngibl from Bell Labs from the perspectives of a network operator and an equipment vendor, respectively. The workshop was co-organized by NSF, e-photon one, and COST 291.

b. NSF FIND (Future Internet Design) workshop

The NSF is holding a workshop on Monday (Dec. 5) to discuss future directions in networking research.

c. Thanks to Biswanath

Ioannis thanked Biswanath for his contributions to ONTC over the last two years and presented Biswanath with a small gift.

10. The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 pm.

Minutes recorded by Jason Jue.