

IEEE ComSoc Society Radio Communications Committee (RCC)

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Minutes for the meeting held on July 27, 2021 IEEE ICC 2021, Virtual Conference

1. Introduction

The Committee Chair Jemin Lee opened the Radio Communications Committee (RCC) meeting at 6:00 pm CEST. There were 29 members present, and a list of participants is attached at the end of these minutes. The Chair first presented the agenda:

1. Welcome
2. Approval of Agenda
3. General Information of RCC
4. Approval of GC'20 RCC Meeting Minutes (available on the website)
5. Conferment of 2021 IEEE ComSoc RCC Outstanding Service Award
6. Conferment of 2021 IEEE ComSoc RCC Early Achievement Award
7. Report on RCC Special Interest Groups (SIGs)
8. Report on Conference/Workshop/Standardization Activities
9. Report on Communication Technology May Change the World Student Competition
10. Technical Committee Board P&Ps Update
11. Report on RCC Activities
12. Next RCC Meeting
13. Adjourn

2. Approval of the Agenda

The agenda was approved.

3. General Information of RCC

The Chair reviews the mission and the goals of the RCC, presents general information about RCC (meetings, how to become an RCC member), and explains the difference between a member and an active member.

4. Approval of IEEE GC'20 RCC Meeting Minutes

The minutes (circulated via RCC website) were approved.

5. Conferment of 2021 IEEE ComSoc RCC Outstanding Service Award

The Radio Communications Committee (RCC) Outstanding Service Award is established to recognize members of the IEEE Communications Society's (ComSoc) RCC who have a distinguished record of service to the RCC community, including organization of RCC endorsed symposia and workshops, providing exceptional leadership within the RCC, and promotion of RCC activities and interests in the broader research community.

Award Committee:

- Hanna Bogucka (Chair)
- Jack Winters
- Marco Chiani
- Hyundong Shin
- Julian Cheng

The 2021 IEEE ComSoc RCC Outstanding Service Award is conferred to Dr. Yuan Shen, Tsinghua University. Dr. Shen gives a short speech thanking the committee for the award. He will keep helping the committee.

6. Conferment of 2021 IEEE ComSoc RCC Early Achievement Award

The Radio Communications Committee (RCC) Early Achievement Award aims to promote radio communications research and development activities in both the academic and industrial community. This award is established as part of the RCC activities in which research and development takes place in areas related to radio communications. The award recognizes members of the IEEE Communications Society (ComSoc) who have achieved early career visibility in the field through research and service to the RCC.

Award Committee:

- Hanna Bogucka (Chair)
- Jack Winters
- Marco Chiani
- Hyundong Shin
- Julian Cheng

The 2021 IEEE ComSoc RCC Early Achievement Award is conferred to Dr. Emil Björnson, KTH Royal Institute of Technology, “for contributions to radio communications”.

Emil Björnson gives an acceptance speech. He’s honored to get this award and he looks forward to meet the officers and the other RCC members in person as soon as possible.

7. Report on RCC Special Interest Groups (SIGs)

The Vice-Chair presents the four existing RCC special interest groups, pointing out the newly established SIG on Terahertz Communications. The Vice-Chair invites Dr. Santiago Mazuelas, the Chair of the Wireless Localization SIG to report about the SIG activities.

Wireless Localization SIG

Dr. Santiago Mazuelas describes the activities of the Wireless Localization SIG. He explains the general goal of the SIG and then presents the activities carried out by the SIG. They include:

- Organization of 9th Workshop on Advances in Network Localization and Navigation (ANLN) in IEEE Globecom 2021, Madrid, organized in collaboration with the Team of project LOCUS of H2020 programme.
- Maintenance of a web page on ComSoc Best Readings in Network Localization and Navigation (www.comsoc.org/best-readings).
- Planned proposal of a special issue on “Machine learning techniques for network localization and navigation” in IEEE JSTSP.

The Vice-Chair invites Dr. Andreas Molish, the Chair of the Propagation Channels for 5G and Beyond SIG to report about the SIG activities.

Propagation Channels for 5G and Beyond SIG

Dr. Andreas Molish presents the SIG on propagation channels and reviews its goals, including the establishment of webpage for information exchange, pointing to new papers. The SIG officers plan to have a regular workshop at ICC or Globecom. Dr. Molish remarks that any person interested in being involved in the workshop organization at ICC 2022, and also in organization of a special issue in IEEE journals whose scope fits with the SIG goals, can contact him. A first workshop organized by Dr. Andreas Molish and Dr. Dajana Cassioli was at Globecom 2020. Additional SIG activities include:

- Organization of a tutorial at ICOIN 2021: “Measurement and Modeling of Millimeterwave and Terahertz Channel,” by Dr. Andreas Molisch.
- Ongoing liaison with NIST mmWave channel alliance (A. Molisch).
- Main activity of alliance: comparison of different high-resolution parameter extraction methods; work on “best practices” for sounder calibration.

The Vice-Chair invites Dr. Tingting Zhang, the Chair of the Integrated Sensing and Communications SIG, to report about the SIG activities.

Integrated Sensing and Communications SIG

Dr. Tingting Zhang presents the activities of the SIG on integrated sensing and communications. He explains the SIG motivation, remarking that several problems in ISC still remain open and that the goal of this group is to bring together researchers in an effort to identify and discuss the major technical challenges, recent breakthroughs, and new applications related to ISC. The Vice-Chair of the SIG, Dr. Pan Cao, also explains what integrated sensing and communications is. Dr. Zhang then describes the activities that have been carried out and that include:

- A panel Discussion in IEEE WCNC 2021.
- Feature Topics on “Location Awareness for 5G and Beyond” in IEEE Communications Magazine.
- Planned organization of online seminars on ISC and workshops along with mainstream IEEE conferences.

The Vice-Chair invites Dr. Hina Tabassum, the Chair of the Terahertz Communications SIG, to report about the SIG activities.

Terahertz Communications SIG

Dr. Hina Tabassum introduces the newly established SIG on Terahertz communications. Joseph Jornet, one of the Vice-Chairs, is also attending the meeting. Dr. Tabassum presents the officers of the SIG and remarks that they are open to welcome more people joining their group. She points out the SIG webpage (<https://sites.google.com/view/ieee-comsoc-icc-sig-thz/home>) and then illustrates the main goals of the SIG, that include:

- To become the unifying forum of discussion for all the aspects relating to THz communications, from device technologies to radio propagation and communication systems design.
- To provide a one-stop-shop for the wireless research community, where to find key resources and pointers to relevant THz materials, helping any researcher to join and contribute to this exciting field.
- To organize convened sessions and workshops as well as special issues in IEEE conferences and journals.
- To promote and support standardization activities on THz communications in 6G and beyond worldwide.

Dr. Tabassum says they have a media chair helping with preparation of the website and then illustrates the planned activities, including:

- Invited Seminars (every three months).
- Possible workshops organization along with mainstream IEEE conferences.
- Establishing IEEE ComSoc readings in the area of THz communications.
- Organizing tutorials and panels.
- Developing a team of core members that can potentially contribute to working groups.
- Readings section will continue to evolve.
- Creation of an independent mailing list for the SIG.

The first invited seminar has already been organized and 30 members are already available to join their group.

8. Report on Conference/Workshop/Standardization Activities

The secretary presents the report on the RCC sponsored conferences/workshops. The report for each specific conference/workshop is available in the slides downloadable from the RCC website. Conferences/workshops and the corresponding RCC representatives are listed below (see slides for details):

- GLOBECOM 2020: Julian Cheng (CR-AI), Marco Chiani (CT), Jemin Lee (SPC), Dania Marabissi (SPC)
- ICC 2021: Chia-Han Lee (WC), Hesham Elsayy (MWN)
- GLOBECOM 2021: Andrea Giorgetti (WC), Chenghao Qi (SPC)
- ICC 2022: Giovanni Geraci (WC), Yuan Shen (SPC), Chia-Han Lee (CRAIN)

The Secretary also presents the report on standardization activities. It is pointed out that RCC members participate actively to several standardization initiatives promoted by the IEEE, including ComSoc Standards Development Board, IEEE Dynamic Spectrum Access Networks Standards Committee, Power Line Communications Standards Committee, Virtualized and Software Defined Networks and Services Standards Committee, Mobile Communication Networks Standards Committee. All details are available in the the slides downloadable from the RCC website. It is remarked that people interested in being involved in these activities may refer to the RCC Standards Liaison Officer Dr. George Chrisikos or to the RCC officers.

9. Report on Communication Technology May Change the World Student Competition

The Vice-Chair reviews the scope of the competition. Promoted by the IEEE Communications Society, it recognizes students or teams of students who demonstrate the capacity to improve the lives of people, through the application of communication technology and the development of projects that meet the human needs of people. The Vice-Chair presents the results of the competition, as follows:

First prize (USD 2000 + plaque):

Microfluidic Networks: The Future of Human Integrated Communication Systems
Medina Hamidovic, Johannes Kepler University, Linz, Austria

Second prize (USD 1000 + plaque)

AirEmergCom: Airborne Emergency Communication System with Millimeter-Wave Beamforming

Lipeng Zhu, Yanming Liu, & Pengfei Yi, Beihang University, China

Recycling Radio Waves for the Wide Adoption of Precision Agriculture

Georgios Vougioukas, Nikolaos Ntantidakis, & Emmanouil Andrianakis, Technical University of Crete, Greece

“Honorary Mention” Certificates to 11 Projects

<https://www.comsoc.org/education-training/student-competition/student-competition-winners>

10. Technical Committee Board P&Ps Update

The Chair presents the technical committee board P&Ps update. It includes the following points:

- Eligibility for Awards:
 - Every ComSoc member is eligible for awards, not just Active members
- TC Officer Election:
 - At least two candidates per position are needed. If there are not enough nominations to have at least two TC active members placed on the ballot, then the N&E Subcommittee can also consider TC non-active members for adding them to the ballot. Priority is given to active members.
- BoG Ad Hoc for TC/IC/ETI Restructuring
 - Ad Hoc Committee is created on reorganization of ComSoc Technical Communities (TCs, ICs, ETIs) with the goals of
 - Facilitate contributions from all types of membership;
 - Facilitate collaboration with Chapters.

11. Report on RCC Activities

The Chair presents the report on RCC activities. Regarding GLOBECOM and ICC symposia chair nominations, she points out that nominations have already been made up to ICC 2023. In particular, 14 nominations for ICC 2023 and 9 nominations for GC 2022 have been received. The chair also points out that a call for nomination will be sent out via the RCC mailing list and reminds that self-nomination is allowed.

Regarding conference endorsement for ComSoc technical co-sponsorship, the Chair remarked that RCC endorses a number of conferences every year but that the conference should be relevant to the scope of the RCC. Interested people may contact the RCC officers to obtain support from the RCC.

Concerning ComSoc Distinguished Lecturer Nomination, the Chair remarks that the nomination deadline is September 2021. Again, interested people may contact the RCC officers. Selected distinguished lecturers in 2020:

- Tony Q. S. Quek, Singapore University of Technology and Design
- Giovanni Geraci, University Pompeu Fabra

Finally, the Chair reminds that the IEEE Radio Communications Committee has launched a series of online seminars starting from July 2021, to give great opportunities to learn the recent outcomes on trending topics from outstanding researchers. The duration of each seminar is 35-40 minutes plus Q&A. The first seminar was given by Dr. Mark Flanagan, University College Dublin, on July 7, 2021. The next one will be given by Dr. Emil Björnson, Linköping University, Sweden.

11. Next RCC meeting

The next RCC meeting will be scheduled in GC 2021, Madrid, Spain.

12. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15 pm CEST.

Attendees list

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