IEEE COMMUNICATIONS SOCIETY
Board of Governors
London, United Kingdom
10-11 June 2015
MINUTES

Attendees at the meeting were:

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<th>Officers (voting)</th>
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<td>Desmond, Celia</td>
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1. Remarks - Sergio Benedetto (Attachment Agenda)

Sergio called the meeting to order and welcomed special guests – Sheila Hemami (IEEE VP PSPB), Karen McCabe (IEEE Standards), Kathy Grise (IEEE Future Directions), and Jayne Cerone (IEEE TA). Sergio asked for a motion to approve the agenda. The voting members were counted with a final tally of 20 (greater than the 11 needed for quorum). There was a motion to approve BOG 2 2014 and OpCom1 2015 minutes and they were approved.
2. Officer Reports

A. President – Sergio Benedetto (Attachment)
Sergio presented his President’s report; noting that ComSoc “business as usual” was in good shape. Some bullet items were flagship conference attendance is steady, publications are healthy, and relations with IEEE SA are strong. Chapter involvement is improving, there are some potential technical committees incubating, and the budget is under control.

Sergio announced that IEEE BoD will return $3.4M to the organizational units. He noted Susan’s internal staff reorganization, SPC analysis of possible ComSoc Board restructuring, the work by the governance committee on P’s & P’s and updated Bylaws, and a new policy for conference technical sponsorship.

Sergio also noted an outcome from the Management Retreat in January - Education is now the “third leg” of the ComSoc revenues policy. There is a strong effort by societies to increase revenues from IEEE on packaged products; increased involvement by ComSoc in new initiatives (GreenICT was noted), and the Industry Futures Conference Steering committee is finalizing its first events.

One negative – membership is down and new strategies are needed to attract new members and retain them after the first year.

The ComSoc Society review occurs in June following BOG1 – report prepared carefully by volunteers and staff.

He noted the IEEE Ad-Hoc on the Future of Information and Convening met in March 2015 and also noted a few of the discussion topics (reproducibility of research/publication results, will journals still be relevant in 2030, what will be the meaning of authorship in 2030, and how will information be vetted (peer review process).

B. Division III - Harvey Freeman (Attachment)
Harvey noted the last meeting was in February, however, there was a conference call in early June. He reported membership numbers as of April 30, 2015 for ComSoc and IEEE. For IEEE, there are 345,604 members with 287,016 joining societies. For ComSoc, there are 27,756 members which number is down from the April 30, 2014 number of 35,907. He noted we no longer have the half-year free program which has impacted the total ComSoc membership.

Harvey discussed TA priorities which include expanding to new audiences, investment in new technologies, delivery of new types of products (such as SxSW and Rock Stars), and new tools and delivery (Collaborate and Social Media). Financial Transparency at the BOD has resulted in $3.4M given back to OU’s. A cap on staff expenditures is in effect for TA this year. $2M was given back to TA; we need to have our project proposals ready. (action 15:01)
IEEE overhead chargebacks to societies are a major fiscal concern. The rate of increase of overhead is greater than the increase in society income. Infrastructure is now at 29.5% on Packaged Products. In addition, Harvey referenced a SPS study that found some societies need to spend $2 to bring in $1. Computer actually has to spend $2.5 to bring in $1. Overhead is very high, ROI is unclear, and its components are invisible. He noted societies have limited ways to control costs.

Harvey reported on total IEEE conferences; technically co-sponsored conferences generate no additional revenue to the business as a whole; only allocations are changed. Expense grows with conference volume, but revenue only grows with financially sponsored events. The ratio of financially sponsored to technically sponsored conferences across societies is 1.67 (970/582). Societies are charged $1,000 for every technically co-sponsored event so we should charge this to the conference.

On the subject of technical communities, Harvey noted that Smart Grid is IEEE’s second largest Technical Community with 5,400 Members; an increase of 23% one year. ComSoc is leading the Green ICT initiative.

C. Technical Activities - Khaled Letaief (Attachment)
Khaled stated the IEEE Education Activities Board (EAB) has been asked to consider offering a ComSoc representative to EAB and ABET.

There is an ongoing discussion on the establishment of education and training as part of the ICC and GLOBECOM technical programs. Erik Luther, Fabrizio Granelli, and Mike Devetsikiotis will prepare a proposal to be discussed at a future meeting.

Erik Luther and Dave Michelson have discussed with Stefano Galli about how to put “hands-on” content on a ComSoc platform; staff has built a prototype which is being presented at ICC.

Khaled reported that three new two-day courses were developed in 2014 with the support of IEEE FDC Incubator funds: 5G by Ted Rappaport and was delivered in December, Ashutosh Dutta will deliver Mobility Protocols in June 2015, and Amarnath Gupta will deliver Big Data in July.

The ETB recently approved a revision of its P&Ps which have been reviewed and approved by Khaled.

The first ComSoc Summer School, led and organized by Fabrizio Granelli, will take place in July in Trento, Italy. Over 100 applications were received and 60 students are expected to attend.

Khaled described two initiatives that are underway which would offer ComSoc education products internationally: Nile University in Egypt is interested in promoting COMSOC’s WCET program locally; also the possibility to offer WCET training in India.

The BOG has expressed concerns about educational content by third party advertisers being sent out to ComSoc members without ComSoc technical vetting. The ETB agrees there should be a review process and are waiting for a committee to be formed by Susan Brooks, Elena Neira, Sergio Benedetto, and IEEE Media which will determine guidelines. (action: 15:02)
The VP-TA initiated a “portfolio analysis” on the current structure and operations and created a 
task force chaired by Sherman Shen.

Khaled described that GITC’s top priority is to improve the timeline from submission to 
publication. The GITC will discuss and move on setting a later deadline of October 15, 2015 for 
ICC 2016. A procedure for granting extensions has been developed and that should be used by 
TPC chairs.

The Education Board will identify candidate activities to enhance the educational portion of 
GICC while focusing on a pilot which could take place in 2016. Matt Valenti of the GITC is 
working with Rolland Vida of the GIMS on a large scale data project.

The ComSoc Fellows Committee received 88 nominations this year (the committee is still 
comprised of mainly members from academia).

Emerging Technologies has several new sub-committee proposals - Backhaul Networking, 
Quantum Communications and Information Technology, and Tactile Internet.

The lifecycle of sub-TCs was discussed as well as a Sunset Evaluation Policy. What is a typical 
lifecycle of an emerging area? The recommendation is a 2+2 up/down mechanism for sub-TC: 
1. Elevate to full TC; 2. Continue as sub-TC; 3. Probation; 4. Disband

D. Conferences – Hikmet Sari (Attachment)

Hikmet reported that the conference portfolio added new events in 2015: INTELECT, NETSOFT, 
Princeton 5G, CSCN, NFV-SDN, and ICSOS. For the first 11 conferences in 2015, paid 
attendance is up 6%, total paper submissions is up 3%, total paper acceptance is up 2%, and total 
estimated revenue is up 17%. However, ICC expenses were higher than anticipated, therefore, 
surplus is less than the increase would suggest.

The Steering Committee chairs for conferences with less than 50 attendees will be contacted to 
better understand the problems faced, their plans, and then determine whether or not to keep them 
in the portfolio. Consideration is being given to co-location of certain events to reduce costs. 
Some possibilities include: NetSoft and NFV-SDN; CogSIMA, SECON, WT-IoT, and 
HealthCom; CloudNet and P2P; and CAMAD and HPSR.

There are two new conferences - IEEE NFV-SDN (San Francisco, 18-21 November; General 
Chair is from AT&T) and IEEE Second World Forum on IoT (Milan, 14-16 December).

Hikmet updated the Board that after a review of a model which would charge staff time back to 
conferences, most committee members favor a service pricing model. This will be developed by 
the Treasurer and staff for review.
The Director of Conferences recommends charging TCS applicants the amount IEEE charges ComSoc; which is $1,000. The IEEE has introduced changes to the TCS in 2016 that will impact conference operations.

Hikmet reported that the new TCS Process has been in place for nine months and has been implemented across all conferences.

Ethical issues are still being encountered: a workshop at ICC 2014 was canceled after detection of fake papers, process, and reviewers. The review process for RSN Workshop at ICC 2015 was also suspicious. These issues remain under investigation.

GLOBECOM 2018 was awarded to Abu Dhabi; ICC 2019 was awarded to Shanghai; and GLOBECOM 2019 will be in the Americas with a final location decision due by GLOBECOM 2015.

The GIMS and GITC have analyzed the time from paper submission to publication which is approximately 9 months for flagship conferences. The analogous time for other IEEE society flagship conferences is 6-7 months. The going forward goal will be 7 months and one week.

E. Publications - Sarah Kate Wilson (Attachment)

Katie announced the Online Content Board’s request moved and approved motion to postpone the vote for the CCO position.

She provided highlights from the Panel of Editors conference. Several issues were discussed:

- Prescreening of papers perceived to be low-quality; IEEE requires two independent sets of eyes before rejection. ComSoc follows this, however, often the magazines receive papers that are marketing content which an administrative reject based on this criterion is probably appropriate;
- Discussion was held on non-reviewed repositories for additional author work; this is currently not available IEEE; a pilot program has been proposed for JSAC using Dropbox™;
- EIC’s can choose a featured article for the publications Xplore home page which is something ComSoc should take advantage of in the future;
- PSPB wants to ensure that conference papers are not printed verbatim as journal papers

IEEE Communication Standards has been incubating as a supplement in IEEE Communications Magazine with three issues published (December 2014, March and June 2015; next one is planned for September 2015) and an LOI has been submitted to IEEE. The JSAC: Green Communications and Networking incubation continues under EIC Ender Ayonoglu.

Discussions have begun with Internet of Things initiative representatives Roberto Minerva (volunteer) and Harold Tepper (staff) regarding a new magazine.
Two jointly owned publications, IEEE Transactions on Cognitive Communications and Networking (TCCN; additional owners Computer Society and Signal Processing) and IEEE Transactions on Molecular, Biological and Multi-scale Communications (TMBC; additional owners Computer Society and Nano Council), were launched in 2015.

Katie stated journals are doing well in terms of sub to decision statistics. The EICs have been asked to provide guidelines on how to do quality reviews. Jeff Andrews has written a set of reviewer guidelines which is available at www.comsoc.org/twc/reviewer-guidelines.

It is more difficult for an editor from industry to devote the necessary time to editorial duties due to work commitments; a possible solution is to give those EIC’s smaller workloads.

Very few authors at this time are choosing Open Access to publish.

An EIC for e-News is still needed.

Steve Gorshe and Katie Wilson are developing a written policy on how to submit a proposal for a magazine incubation project.

Katie reported that some new initiatives include taking responsibility for part of the content of the cloudcomputing.ieee.org through either contributions to sections of existing pages or by creation of new webpages. Another new initiative is to include a one page Online Content summary from CTN and/or Best Readings in Communications Magazine to increase visibility of these products.

F. Member Relations – Stefano Bregni (Attachment)

Stefano reported the committee has revisited its P& P’s and after review by the Governance Committee is preparing a second revision for approval by the BoG.

A review of Chapter Chair longevity is underway with supportive succession planning as a solution. There is no Regional Chapter Chair Congress planned for 2015; would like to budget for a 2016 Congress.

DLT and DSP support continues to be the most valuable benefit for ComSoc chapters. Stefano also provided an update of activities occurring in chapters globally.

Stefano provided an update on the membership numbers: by segment, region, renewals, and more. The decision has been made to no longer offer free memberships. This will significantly impact the overall membership numbers (by approximately -25%; however, different numbers do circulate, because it depends on what categories of members are included), however, revenue to date has not been impacted. Stefano asked the Board for its support to not raise membership dues in 2016 until the membership levels stabilize and member benefits are clearly defined. He reported on the first International 5G Summit held in Princeton which attracted 300 attendees with 17 speakers from industry, academia, and government.

Stefano provided an update on the 3rd annual Student Competition, accomplishments within the sister society arena, and an update on the great strides made by WICE.
G. Standards - Rob Fish (Attachment)

Key issues for 2014-2015 include catching up to fast moving technologies, improving efficiency of P&C and By Laws, enforcement of a financial model, and creating sources of revenue. The Standards Development Board is currently working on the following. Details are in the report.

1. IEEE P1906.1 Recommended Practice for Nanoscale and Molecular Communication Framework
2. IEEE P1908.1 Indic Virtual Keyboards
3. IEEE P1910.1 Meshed Tree Bridging with Loop Free Forwarding
4. IEEE P2410 Body Metrics Open Protocol (BOP)
5. IEEE P1911 – HDBaseT
7. Dynamic Spectrum Access Networks (DySPAN) - Standards Committee (SC)
8. Power Line Communication (PLC) – Standards Committee (SC)
9. TAOS Sub group (IEEE Subcommittee on Telephone Instrument Testing)

Efforts are under way to increase the standards portfolio. Study groups have been formed on the Security, Reliability and Performance of Software Defined and Virtualized Ecosystem; Service Virtualization; IOT API and 5G – Next Generation Front Haul Interface.

Other issues include the enforcement of both the financial model (expenses) and WG reporting; shared collaboration tools for working group meetings; meetings of working groups for ICC and GLOBECOM and increased involvement in standards by TC and SIGs.

The infrastructure is in place for the Communications Magazine Standards Supplement and ComStand Magazine proposal including a Steering Committee, Advisory Group, EIC and Managing Editor. A detailed scope has also been defined and listed in the report.

The inaugural event for IEEE-CSCN International Conference on Standards for Communications and Networking is October 28-30 2015 in Tokyo. It will be held in conjunction with an IETF meeting and in cooperation with the IEICE Society. Scope will mirror the scopes of TELECOM Standards Workshop and Communications Standards Supplement.

Rapid Reaction Standardization SDN/NFV activities:

2. Study groups- proposals by the Service Virtualization Study Group and Security, Reliability and Performance for Software Defined and Virtualized Ecosystems were submitted and accepted by CSDB.
3. SDN Standardization Committee was formed as part of IEEE SDN initiative.

Rapid Reaction Standardization for IoT and Rapid Reaction Standardization are provided in report.
H. CIO Stefano Galli – (Attachment)
The Content Management Ticketing System, designed to centralize web content requests and provide metrics, is operational. The Pubs staff and Pubs volunteers have been trained and changes based on feedback from VP Publications have been implemented for Publications. The rollout will continue next for Standards and Member Relations. Final rollout is planned for late summer.

Efforts to measure the effectiveness of social media were detailed in the BOG 2 2014 CIO report. One result of this effort was to modify social media buttons on the ComSoc home page as their effect was minimal. Analytics and changes are detailed in the report.

In addition to Google Analytic, ComSoc has other tools with which to measure Social Media effectiveness including AddThis, Hootsuite, and Facebook Ad Manager; information from these tools is being analyzed. An example from Facebook Ad Manager was listed in the report.

An update on the project to retire Eprise (due to costs, outdated interface) and replace it with IEEE WordPress platform was given and detailed in the report. This platform has been used by TC, Chapters, and several other groups for website hosting. The project is set for completion in late summer.

The need to replace the ComSoc Community website was detailed. Options included Open Atrium, an open source distribution of Drupal, and IEEE Collabratec. This project is in the investigation phase.

An update for the IEEE BOD Ad Hoc Committee on IT was given. The scope for 2015 is different than 2014 with a focus on the IT needs for all of IEEE over the next 3-5 year period.

I. NEC Vijay Bhargava (Attachment)
The online recommendation form for the 2016 election is available at http://www.comsoc.org/form/2016-comsoc-candidate-recommendation-form. A request was made to staff to send out notification in e-News and for the ComSoc leadership to reach out to TC, regional boards, and WICE.

NEC has nominated Steve Weinstein and Des Taylor for ComSoc Ombudsman. A vote was taken by the BOG and Steve Weinstein was selected by a majority vote. An amendment to Bylaw 7.3.11 has been sent to the Governance Committee.

The committee requested approval of its amendment to Bylaw 7.3.1; this will be taken up under the discussion of all motions.

J. Education Training Board Michele Zorzi (Attachment)
The primary objective of the Education and Training Board (ETB) is to oversee all ComSoc education and training activities. ETB is chartered with establishing policies and setting strategic directions and maintaining, expanding and enhancing the vitality of existing programs to ensure these programs continue to meet the current needs of ComSoc Members.
ETB will need to develop strategies to address international members. A new textbook series on ABET was launched in the spring.

A three issue series on Education and Training will be published in Communications Magazine.

The ComSoc Hands-On Lab Exchange portal is in process with the goals to encourage and facilitate collaboration, share and promote best practices, and make available lab and course material. SDR is making hands-on communications accessible. The Hands-On Lab Exchange has a mock up for the website available and was presented at the ETB meeting at BOG 1 2015.

New course development schedule: 2014 – three new courses; 2015 - target three more; 2016 - target three more.

Some future goals include a renewal of the portfolio, addressing hot topics, and enhancing the course diversity. Is there sustainability for this model? Susan will give input.

Future work which has been identified – explore a preferred provider for vendor training

A case study of India was presented: 1.5M engineers graduate per year, however, 50% are not qualified or employable so there is clear demand. Computer Society has been successful training in India and could be a model for ComSoc. There are challenges to create a business model, maintain quality control, and ensure financial success.

Michele asked for approval of the ETB’s P&P’s. (See motion 15:01) Approved

K. Green ICT Charles Despins and Jaafar Elmirghani (Attachment)

The Green ICT initiative update was provided and the new Green ICT website was demonstrated. The initiative has five planned outcomes – create a Green ICT transactions and magazine; develop IEEE conferences, workshops and symposia; develop Green ICT standards activities in liaison with other groups active in similar areas; create training activities in the form of tutorials at conferences; and create a web portal to stimulate participation from other IEEE societies. Charles and Jaafar also provided the initiative’s progress to date and the future roadmap.

L. IEEE Internet Initiative Roberto de Marea (on behalf of Karen McCabe)

The group is attempting to solve the problem of security and privacy with initiative funding of $1.8M. There is a desperate need for more ComSoc experts to participate in panels and associated activities. There are activities in place to support internal governance solutions.

M. PSPB update Sheila Hemami (Attachment)

PSPB projects and issues:
- Collaboratec – to build community
- Open Access – to develop strategy and implementation
- Co-sponsoring of conferences with quality control on front end
- Perform community education and author conduct
- Duplicate publishing policy (example: conference papers cannot be re-published verbatim in journals)
- Address publishing costs
PSPB started Collabratec in 2013 as a joint PSPB/TAB/MGA joint project with a pilot in December 2014. The steering committee has reps from all three OU’s and the current challenge is defining terms of use that will encourage uptake.

IEEE has a three-pronged approach to OA: hybrid journals, topical OA journals with Gold option only, and IEEE Access (Mega-journal) with Gold option only. Thus far, Journal of Photonics has been the most successful.

Co-sponsoring conferences at IEEE: create more accountability and control at front end before placing questionable content in Xplore. This has become a PSPB problem as it jeopardizes IEEE’s reputation. The current approach to screen co-sponsored conferences technical program integrity after the papers are published is not scalable. The question to be answered is what are ComSoc co-sponsored policies?

Prohibited author lists (PAL) are passive and require users to know they exist, have permission to use them and then execute successfully. PSPB is currently considering policy around the use of PAL.

Reproducibility may be the next large government to mandate following Open Access; Xplore offers supplemental information, but this is undescribed. PSPB is considering a more formal framework where an author can provide additional data, code, and other information as "scholarly products" in conjunction with a paper.

At 5:30 pm, Sergio called for a motion for Byeong’s presentation to be moved to tomorrow. Motion was approved.

N. Strategic Planning Committee – Byeong Gi Lee (Attachment)
Byeong set the stage for the Bylaws discussion through a quick review of the ComSoc 2020 vision which has four key areas: Community, Humanitarian, Technical, and Industry. Aligned to these areas are the four SPC groups of Education Programs, Content, and Services: Standards, Industry Programs and Services; New Technical Values Creation; and Serving Members Globally at an Individual Level.

Byeong then reviewed the work to date that the SPC has completed in order to support the ComSoc 2020 vision. As a result of these efforts, Byeong and the committee have been constructing changes to the BoG’s structure. These changes are captured in his report.

The Committee brought forth a motion to amend the Bylaws (See motion 15:02) Approved.

O. NEC Motion – Vijay Bhargava (Attachment)
Vijay presented the Committee’s motion (See motion15:03) Approved. This motion ensures that a “must have” from IEEE is added to the Bylaw. The motion clarifies the voting members, clarifies the number of voting members in odd and even years, and enables an easy and accurate counting of voting members for establishing a quorum during NEC meetings.
P. Finance (Susan Brooks (on behalf of Stan Moyer/Bruce Worthman)) Attachment
Susan presented a financial summary for 2014. ComSoc is not on a TAB or IEEE watch list. ComSoc had a healthy surplus – there was less revenue, but there were more reductions in expenses to compensate. Some comparisons were detailed from 2013 to 2014 to illustrate improvements.

The 2015 forecast is currently at $315K.

The 2016 budget was presented along with key assumptions that went into the creation of the budget. A list of recommended budget amounts for programs was presented. Other items included the following: no dues increase, small increases in print and electronic for Communications Magazines and other publications, certification revenues will be unchanged, and IEEE will determine costs such as IEEE deliverables, rent, and infrastructure for both ComSoc and IEEE.

There is a Financial Transparency project sponsored by volunteer leadership and in partnership with IEEE. We will now see the society share of revenue and expenses, not just proceeds. This will allow us to see which products are generating revenue and see where the money is spent to support IEEE corporate. It will provide better insight into the performance in the three main lines of operation. A slide was presented to contrast the old and new reporting by IEEE. Other financial slides are in the report. ComSoc can now say we are a $25M organization due to the inclusion of the APP revenues and expenses.

Q. Governance Committee – Paul Cotae (Attachment)
Paul reviewed the responsibilities of the Governance Committee and its recent activities which included the revision of its bylaws and P’s and P’s, the development of the Governance Toolkit, and reviews of the ComSoc Bylaws, P’s and P’s, and Constitution.

There are several motions to be presented later to the BOG. The essence of these motions is as follows:

Motions to fix errors, clarify ambiguities, polish text, incorporate “IEEE must haves,” provide resources:

- (Constitution) – General amendment (See motion 15:04) Approved.
- (Bylaws) – General revision (SPC split) (See motion 15:05) Approved.
- (P&Ps) – Governance Toolkit (See motion 15:06) Approved.

Motions about GC roles and responsibilities:

- (Bylaws) – GC review of governance amendments (See motion 15:07) Approved.
- (Bylaws) – Revision of GC committee description (See motion 15:08) Approved.

Motions to discuss new policies:

- (Constitution) – Definition of councils and boards (See motion 15:09) Approved.
- (Bylaws) – New P&Ps approval process (See motion 15:10) Approved.
Bylaws:

The Governance Committee moves to amend the Society Bylaws as shown in the Annex as amended by the SPC.

The Governance Committee moves to change the approval process of P&Ps by amending the Bylaws (6.3, 7.3, and 8.4)

The Governance Committee moves that the P&Ps of the Governance Committee to be developed by the committee for approval by the BoG in case of major changes or by the President in case of minor changes.

The Governance Committee moves to include in Clause 1 “Generalities” of the P&Ps the new text for Clauses 1.6 and 1.7.

Constitution:

The Governance Committee moves to amend the Society Constitution clauses 5.3 and 5.4.

The Governance Committee moves to amend the Society Constitution as shown in the Annex.

R. CCO Discussion – Harvey Freeman (Attachment)

Harvey presented a proposal to create a Chief Content Officer volunteer leader position which would report to the President. This position would oversee the Society’s new media content initiatives across multiple platforms.

Three motions (15.11 – Failed), (15.12 - Failed) and (15.13 – Approved)

S. Organizational Assessment Update – Susan Brooks (Attachment)

Susan provided an update on the progress of the items identified during the organizational assessment. Assessment items included those underway, in progress, and completed. The implementation of the organizational structure has begun and was shared with the full staff in May.

T. Membership Update – Susan Brooks (Attachment)

Susan presented an updated view of ComSoc’s membership numbers (joins, renewals, arrears, etc.). She also reviewed the “real picture” of membership which equates to a decrease of approximately 12K members in arrears and 12K members who were provided free membership and did not renew. Susan outlined the membership strategy developed to date and she and the staff will be developing new campaigns based upon value propositions and member benefits in order to rebuild the membership ranks.
U. Membership Dues – Stefano Bregni
Based upon the membership work done to date and the decision to no longer offer free membership, Stefano proposed that membership dues not be raised in 2016
(See motion 15:14) Approved

V. Future Directions – Sergio Benedetto (on behalf of Kathy Grise)
Sergio provided an overview of the purpose of the Future Directions team and its initiatives, of which Green ICT is one and on which ComSoc is the lead Society. ComSoc is also participating in the Big Data, SDN, and Cloud Computing initiatives. Future Directions encourages societies to continue to be involved and to lend their members’ expertise to drive these initiatives to fruition.

W. Old Business – None

X. New Business: One new item
A discussion was held on a proposed IEEE Constitutional Amendment. A motion was made and approved to not support this amendment and this will be brought forward to IEEE BOD at its November meeting. (See motion 15:15) Approved

There were no issues to discuss.

Closing remarks were delivered by Sergio and a motion was passed to adjourn the meeting.

Future Meetings for 2015:
OpCom 2 17-18 October 2015 Rome, Italy
BoG 2 GLOBECOM 2015 7-11 December 2015 San Diego, CA USA

ATTACHMENTS

MOTIONS PASSED THIS MEETING

15:01 The Director of Education and Training, Michele Zorzi, moves that the Board of Governors accepts and approves the Policies and Procedures for the Education and Training Board of the IEEE Communications Society APPROVED
15:02 To amend the Bylaws as follows: APPROVED

Article 3 Officers and Operations: renaming of VPS

Article 4 Councils: changes in responsibilities of five Councils

Article 5 TC and SIGs: changes in reporting line and create description of SIGs

Article 6 Boards: major changes in description of boards

Article 7 Standing and Ad Hoc Committees: changes in descriptions in Distinguished Lecturers, ICEC. And SPC

15:03 Bylaw 7.31. be modified Nominations & Elections – This committee is responsible for identifying candidates to fill elected Society office positions, and for the development, implementation and supervision of election procedures. It consists of nine voting members, each appointed by the President, upon recommendation by the Chair, for a three-year term, one-third of the members being appointed each year. At least one annual appointee must not be a member of the BoG. The tenth voting member is the current Division III Director. Immediately after being elected and officially announced, the President-Elect becomes and ex officio non-voting committee member. The committee is chaired by Past Presidents. Each President spends the first year after his/her term of office, e.g., as Past President, as an ex officio voting committee member (the eleventh voting member in odd years). This Past President assumes the Chair the following year (an odd-numbered year) and serves for two years. If the Past President is unable to serve, the President shall appoint a Chair for a similar period, with the approval of the BoG.

Please see the Agenda Tool Item #25 for the following motions: 15:04 -15:10

15:04 (Constitution) – General amendment APPROVED

15:05 (Bylaws) – General revision (SPC split) APPROVED

15:06 (P&Ps) – Governance Toolkit APPROVED

15:07 (Bylaws) – GC review of governance amendments APPROVED

15:08 (Bylaws) – Revision of GC committee description APPROVED

15:09 (Constitution) – Definition of councils and boards APPROVED

15:10 (Bylaws) – New P&Ps approval process APPROVED

15:11 Move to remove the position of Director of Online Content reporting to the VP Publications and replace it with Chief Content Officer (CCO) reporting to the President effective January 1, 2016 FAILED
Motion to Substitute: BoG approves in principle the creation of a CCO position pending a report to the BoG at the BoG 2; listing the responsibilities of this position and the responsibilities of the standing committee reporting to it FAILED

Motion to refer to OCB committee for discussion and recommendation to BoG APPROVED

Motion to not to raise dues in 2016 APPROVED

The Communications Society Board of Governors believes that the proposed IEEE Constitutional Amendment is not in the best interest of the IEEE and ComSoc and recommends to the IEEE Board of Directors to rescind the motion approving the submission to the IEEE membership of this Constitutional Amendment proposal.

Move that the Board of Governors approve the Policies and Procedures for the Journals Board of the IEEE Communications Society APPROVED

Motion to change the composition of the Journals Board - Move that Bylaw 6.4.5 governing the Journals Board be modified (see Agenda Tool) APPROVED

Koichi Asatani moves that the Board of Governors accepts and approves the Policies and Procedures for the Member Relations APPROVED

Motion that the Board of Governors accepts and approves the Policies and Procedures for the WICE Committee APPROVED

If ComSoc staff labor cost is to be introduced in the conference budgets, it shall be based on service pricing rather than on staff time measurements APPROVED

In order to partially compensate for the cost incurred by the new IEEE rule which consists of charging societies US$ 1,000 per conference and US$ 15 per paper, increase the current charge of US$ 500 for TCS applications to US$ 1,000 APPROVED

Move the Board of Governors approve the elevation of the “Social Networks” Sub-Committee to a full Technical Committee APPROVED

Move that the Board of Governors approve the elevation of the “Innovation and Standards in Information and Communication Technologies” sub-Committee to a full Technical Committee APPROVED

ACTION ITEMS

Financial Transparency at the BOD has resulted in $3.4M given back to OU’s. A cap on staff expenditures is in effect for TA this year. $2M was given back to TA; we need to have our project proposals ready.

The ETB agrees there should be a review process and is waiting for a committee to be formed by Susan Brooks, Elena Neira, Sergio Benedetto, and IEEE Media which will determine guidelines.