DLT Report, Region 9, July 30-Aug. 4
Andrea Goldsmith

DLT Organizer: Carlos Andrés Lozano Garzón (calozanog@ieee.org)

July 30: Monterrey, local organizer: Dr. Cesar Vargas Rosales (cvargas@itesm.mx)
July 31: Guadalajara, local organizer: Rodrigo Garcia (rodrigo.garcia@cfe.gob.mx)
Aug. 3: Medellin, local organizer: Elkin Echeverri García (ELKIN@compuredes.com.co)
Aug. 4: Bogota, local organizer: Carlos Andrés Lozano Garzón

Lecture Title: The next wave in wireless technology: challenges and solutions

Monterrey Report: The lecture took place at the Tecnologico de Monterrey. About 30 people attended the lecture, including faculty members of the Tecnologico, students, and engineers from local industry. The lecture was well-received and generated lots of questions. I also discussed with the local organizer Cesar Rosales the upcoming IEEE Communication Theory Workshop in Cancun, for which I am an advisor. I have discussed with the organizers mechanisms to make the workshop accessible to local participants and a showcase for communications research being done in Mexico. We are likely to have Rosales or another distinguished researcher from Mexico present an overview of research across all Mexican universities, and there will also be a poster session where students and faculty can present their work to workshop participants.

Guadalajara Report: The lecture took place at the company of the local organizer, CFE. About 20 people attended the lecture, including people from industry and some from the local universities. There was a formal Q&A after the talk, and much informal discussion as well.

Medellin Report: My lecture was part of the opening of a new Comsoc subsection opening in Medellin, and there were several events organized around it. In the morning a Q&A session at Eafit University was organized for research groups, engineers from the local mobile operators and people from Artica, which is a center for excellence in communications in the region. About 50 people attended and the session went on for almost 3 hours. Local media were invited to attend a lunch and Q&A session about my lecture and the opening of the new chapter with myself, the local organizer Elkin Garcia, and the Colombia Comsoc representative Carlos Velasquez. About 15-20 journalists attended, and my interview appeared in the largest newspaper of Medellin as well as the local TV station Canal Une. In the evening was the opening event at the Universidad Pontificia Bolivariana, with an IEEE video about Comsoc membership, a raffle, and my lecture. About 300 people were in attendance, with standing room only and a very lively audience. Many questions followed my lecture both in the formal Q&A session and informally afterwards, including discussions about establishing better ties between Latin America and the US in terms of research. The day of activities was an amazing showcase for the IEEE and Comsoc in this region of the world, and the organizers did a truly outstanding job. I did all the interviews, discussions, and lecture in Spanish as as the organizers felt this would have more impact. At their request, I also recorded a welcome invitation video to Latincom (sponsored by Comsoc) for posting on the conference website. This conference is the first Comsoc conference in Latin America and was held in Medellin in early September.
Bogota Report: My lecture in Bogota was held at the Universidad de los Andes. This lecture, which I also gave in Spanish, was very well attended, with about 50 people from different universities in the city as well as local industry. There were many questions both during and after the lecture, as well as follow-up emails about further collaboration.

This DLT tour was extremely fun and gratifying. The organizers overall did an excellent job, and I was impressed by the depth and breadth of the researchers and industrial colleagues that I met throughout the tour. I believe this DLT will help to establish closer ties between the US and Latin America Comsoc chapters. This region of the world is sure to play a dominant role in communications research and development in the future.

Lecture in Guadalajara

Lecture in Monterrey

Canal Une Interview in Medellin

Medellin Subsection Opening Event