Dear Carole,

I’d like to briefly report about my recent DL tour through California, visiting the Orange County, San Diego, and San Fernando chapters. The tour was perfectly organized by Yigang Cai, who established the contacts with the separate chapters and helped to arrange all the trip related issues – including COMSOC support. I’d like to thank him very much for all his kind help!

My trip included three stops, giving lectures on two different topics. I attach the abstracts used for announcing the lectures in the respective local chapters. In order to keep the budget low, I decided to start the trip on the day of the first lecture, even though it included a rather long transatlantic flight.

**Day 1: September 12, 2011**

I started the trip in Innsbruck very early in the morning (5am local time) and arrived in Los Angeles at 3:20pm (local time, -9h time difference). Taking a rental car, I arrived well in time for the first lecture in Santa Ana.

The lecture was organized by Naveen Reddy, chairman of the IEEE Communications and Signal Processing Societies of Orange County. Naveen greatly helped me with all the travel issues including the reservation of a close-by hotel room. The meeting itself was held at the same hotel. A one-hour networking/dinner session helped a lot to introduce myself to the attendees, mostly coming from local companies.

The talk title was “Biologically-inspired and Nano-scale Communication and Networking”. I quickly got the feeling that this topic was indeed of particular interest. Many questions have been discussed during the lecture and I made the slides available to all the participants.

**Day 2: September 13, 2011**

My second stop was San Diego. I used the time in the morning to drive to San Diego, arriving at lunch time.

The local organization was done by Zhensheng Zhang. We briefly met at my hotel room, which, again, was perfectly organized by the local chapter, in order to arrange for the meeting details. The meeting itself was held together with the signal processing people who were as well interested in my lecture. The meeting here was even better attended compared to the Orange County meeting. I counted way more than 40 people.
I gave the same lecture on “Biologically-inspired and Nano-scale Communication and Networking” again, recognizing that we have an extremely active discussion on many issues. Even after the meeting, very active and positive discussions were going on until we had to leave the room, which was available for a 3h time slot.

Day 3: September 14, 2011
The third and last stop was Los Angeles again, meeting with the San Fernando Chapter. I arrived again at lunch time, checking in and taking a brief rest. The hotel was very nice, organized by the local chapter. The local organization was done by Jack Sun – an extremely active and interested person who cared for all the details necessary for and active local chapter work.

This time, my lecture was on “Protocol Engineering for Vehicular Communications”. Differently to the two first meetings, there was a good mix of attendees from industry and academia. The room was fully crowded and we had in-depth discussions on various research topics (well related to the lecture) during the social part (welcome and dinner), the lecture and thereafter.

Day 4: September 15, 2011
This day was reserved for travels only. I returned to Austria early in the morning (8am local time) to arrive on the next day after a very uncomfortable overnight flight.

In summary, I think the DLT was very successful. I had very good discussions with the attendees at all the three places, who, as I understand from their responses, very well enjoyed the talks. I’d like to thank all the chapter chairs for their help and for organizing very interactive and lively meetings. I’d like to thank COMSOC for supporting the trip and Yigang Cai for his initiative to make this DLT possible.

Sincerely,

Falko