

7.21 Transmissions, Access & Optical Systems - approved 12/01, updated 8/06

Transmission, Access, & Optical Systems TC -- This committee sponsors and organizes papers, conference sessions, workshops and standards development relating to both optical and metallic guided media transmission and access systems for the transport of speech, data, and visual information of any bandwidth. Specific areas of interest include: testing and performance of analog and digitally transmitted signals; systems and equipment for subscriber access over fiber, coaxial cable, and twisted copper pairs; analog and digital subscriber lines over wires and interfaces to wireless media; inductive coordination and electrical protection of wired media; network synchronization; and development of IEEE-oriented standards.

1. Charter and Scope

The Transmission, Access, and Optical Systems (TAOS) technical committee plays an active role in promoting and organizing leading-edge Journal special issues, conference symposia, tutorials and workshops, as well as in IEEE standard development, related in particular to optical and metallic guided media and wireless access systems, for the transport of voice and data of any bandwidth. Moreover, it facilitates discussion and exchange of technical information among members of the committee.

Its scope is centered on transmission systems and networks, for the transport of all kind of information in particular in the access segment of telecommunications networks. More specifically, typical areas of interest include, but are not limited to:

- transmission systems and equipment for subscriber access over optical fiber, coaxial cable and twisted copper pairs;
- architecture, performance and testing of wired and wireless access systems and networks;
- analog and digital transmission systems for telephone and data networks;
- inductive coordination and electrical protection of wired media;
- wireless local loop;
- SDH/SONET transmission systems;
- network synchronization;
- technologies, architectures and protocols for optical transmission systems;
- medium access control protocols for both optical and metallic media.

In order to further the above interests, the Committee cooperates with other IEEE Communications Society Technical Committees (TCs) as well as with other organizations.

2. Policies and Procedures

TAOS adheres to all policies specified by the IEEE Communication Society for Technical Committees (*IEEE Communications Society Policies and Procedures, Sec. 7.0 - Operating Procedures Template*). The TAOS Chair reports directly to the VP-Technical Activities.

2.1 Definition of elected and appointed officers, as well as nomination and election procedures

According to ComSoc policies, officers (chair, vice-chair and secretary) are elected for two-years terms, in TAOS meetings usually held at all ICC and GLOBECOM conferences. Candidates are chosen among Communications Society members with a recognized active role within TAOS areas of interest. In most cases, upon expiration of the two-years term, the vice-chair steps up to the chair position, the secretary steps up to vice-chair and a new secretary is elected.

The TAOS Steering Committee includes the current officers (chair, vice-chair and secretary) and past chairs who are still active members. Other ComSoc members with outstanding record in supporting TAOS activities may be also included. The Steering Committee may serve also as candidate selection committee, recommending a slate of officers for the next two-year term. The recommended slate of officers is presented at the next TAOS TC meeting for consideration. At the TAOS TC meeting the floor is opened for other nominations prior to a vote on approval of the recommended slate. Voting is usually restricted to those in attendance. Proxy or email voting is allowed, but only by

previous arrangement with TC officers.

Among all tasks, the Chair (or the Vice-Chair) shall:

- represent the TAOS TC within all ComSoc related activities;
- coordinate and manage all TAOS activities;
- prepare and chair the semi- annual meetings at Globecom and ICC.

The Secretary shall support the chair and vice-chair in all their activities and shall take minutes of meetings.

Steering Committee members may be assigned various tasks, under coordination by the Chair, Vice- Chair or Secretary. This may include for example:

- maintenance of the web site;
- maintenance of the mailing list;
- conference planning and sponsorship;
- organization of meetings at ICC and GLOBECOM;
- liaison with other technical committees;
- liaison with major conference program chairs (viz., ICC and GLOBECOM);
- membership development.

2.2 Membership criteria

There is no restriction to be eligible as TAOS member.

Researchers, engineers, managers, professors or students active in TAOS areas of interest are welcome to cooperate with TC officers to pursue TAOS mission in all activities.

Volunteers to serve in TAOS activities are invited to contact TAOS officers, including a short biography and specifying areas of interest and type of activities for which cooperation is offered.

2.3 Planning, announcement and conduction of TC meetings

TAOS meetings should be held at places deemed convenient for its membership. Usually, they are held twice a year, at major IEEE Communications Society conferences, namely ICC and GLOBECOM.

Meetings are announced at least two weeks in advance on the committee mailing list. Meetings are open to any conference attendee.

The TAOS Chair or designated substitute, typically another TC officer, chairs meetings. Any TAOS member can suggest items for the agenda. Then, these agenda items are presented at the meeting.

The Committee Secretary takes minutes. These minutes should be made available within one month of the meeting. Their availability is announced on the TAOS mailing list. Minutes are posted on the TAOS web site and are public.

2.4 Budget and expenses

The annual budget awarded by the Communication Society may be spent on:

- dissemination activities (e.g., web page, newsletter);
- awards;
- other tasks deemed useful to TAOS activities.

2.5 Support of ComSoc activities, such as publications, meetings and membership development

As appropriate, the TAOS TC will be active in all ComSoc's activities.

This will include support to ComSoc conferences (in particular, ICC, GLOBECOM, INFOCOM and OFC), by:

- providing representatives in Technical Program Committees;
- providing for expert review of submitted papers (by soliciting such assistance from among its membership);
- organizing conferences, symposia, panels, short courses, tutorials, etc., as deemed appropriate by the Society and this Committee;
- individually proposing and organizing workshops and conferences.

The TAOS TC will further support ComSoc journals, magazines, and standards activities by soliciting volunteers as authors and editors, submitting proposals, and identifying committee members from its membership.

The TAOS TC will pursue ways to increase active participation to information exchange related to TAOS areas of interest, by proposing:

- Feature Topics and Special Issues of ComSoc journals and magazines;
- Distinguished Lecturers.

2.6 Information dissemination activities, such as newsletters and web pages, and other areas as appropriate

This TAOS TC will maintain an Internet web page. This web page will be accessible from the main ComSoc Web page. Announcements distributed to the TAOS TC membership participation in Committee-sponsored activities, and well as election-related issues, will be made available on this Web page.

The TAOS will also provide one email list, hosted on the ComSoc server, as an effective mean for timely dissemination of information among TAOS members.