Happy New Year to all of you!

This is the end of the first year of my term as Editor-in-Chief (EiC) of IEEE Communications Letters. During the past year, we have tried to ensure a review and publication process that is transparent, efficient and fair to the authors, the reviewers, the editors and finally the readers of the journal. In 2012, IEEE Comm Letters received almost 3000 submissions (initial and re-submissions). Our ability to handle this large number is due to an outstanding Editorial Board. Currently, the editorial board is composed of excellent researchers from academia and industry who volunteer their expertise and time to the journal. Thanks to the tireless efforts of our hardworking Editorial Board, Comm Letters has a mean turnaround time from submission to decision of 34 days, and from submission to online publication in Xplore of 15 weeks, while ensuring a high quality review process.

But, the review process relies on the diligence and expertise of the anonymous reviewers. The Reviewer Appreciation Program (RAP) recognizes the exemplary researchers who have given their time to provide excellent and thorough reviews to our journal. One of the criteria for selecting candidates for a journal’s editorial board is an excellent review record and we look to the exemplary reviewer pool when selecting new editors.

Concluding this short editorial, I would like to thank the following exemplary reviewers. They represent almost 3% of all our reviewers and spent a significant amount of their time writing constructive, insightful reviews that aided both the authors and the editors.

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**Exemplary Reviewers 2012**

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- Manav Bhatnagar
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