This Report

- About the IEEE Communications Magazine (ComMag)
- Recalling our Recent Goals and Objectives (ICC 2018, Kansas City)
- Issues We are Trying to Attend to
- What have we been doing throughout 2018?
- Publication and Submission Statistics
- Editors’ Retirement, Hiring, Performance Measures, and Promotions
  - Recognizing retired colleagues
About the IEEE Communications Magazine

ComMag

ComMag: The Team

- EiC and two AEICs
- Four Senior Editors
- 22 Series Editors (SEs)
- 14 Technical Editors (TAs)
- 92 Associate Technical Editors (ATE)
- At least 2 Column Editors
- Part-time FT Guest Editors (GEs)
- A database of ~ 20 K reviewers
- ComSoc Publication Staff (All Magazines)
  - Assistant Publisher, Associate Editor, Online Production Manager, Production Specialist, and Managing Editor position vacated and not filled
- For editors listing, see: https://www.comsoc.org/publications/magazines/ieee-communications-magazine/editorial-board
ComMag: The Three Publication Tracks

- Standing - broad scope Series, each focusing on segment of the Telecom field and industry
  - Term-based ComMag SE
- One-time narrow-focused Feature Topics FTs (or Special Issues SI) focusing on emerging hot topics in the Telecom field and industry
  - Guest Editors
- The Open Call (OC), soliciting submissions not falling within the above two categories and may cross boundaries between them.
  - Term-based ComMag ATE and TE

ComMag ...

- is ComSoc’s flagship magazine
- is the world’s most respected magazine in telecommunication
- has attained highest level(s) of professional quality and scholarly standards
- Bibliometric Figures
  - 9.27 Impact Factor
  - 0.05644 Eigenfactor
  - 3.332 Article Influence Score
Recalling the May 2018 Goals and Objectives

*ICC 2018 Meeting in Kansas City*

Recalling our Recent Goals and Objectives (ICC 2018, Kansas City) - 1/2

- Maintain and advance the magazine status as a top publication in its field
- Broaden our readership base: academia & industry; and researchers & practitioners
- Have a review process blending global diversified high-quality contributions
- Continue to improve and strengthen the magazine content
- Acknowledge that ComMag is a dynamic publication where goals and objectives continue to evolve
Recalling our Recent Goals and Objectives (ICC 2018, Kansas City) - 2/2

- Series and Open Calls, which relay on ComMag editors, are the two pillars of self-sustained ComMag
- Series should properly span – all together– the landscape of today’s telecommunication field, and they should attract more submissions than they do today
- A new model is necessary for Series operation; and new job-description is for Series Editors
- Feature Topics are important, the complement Series and OCs, and should focus on topics not covered by series, crossing the boundaries between them, and vertical topics

To Maintain ComMag Leadership

- Regularly revisit our content/structure to:
  - Stay in synch with rapid progress in our field
  - face competition and maintain our lead
  - tackle issues as they arise and fix them
  - It is not unusual for operations of the type and size of ComMag to have issues over the years
- One of the main reasons behind the Magazine success is its ability to dynamically evolve and self-rectify/steer
  - FTs were pushed at some time to fill publication voids at times when this was needed
Issues We are Trying to Attend to

Issues We are Trying to Attend to (1/2)

- Our Series had aged, were not attracting enough submissions, and trailed FTs and OC by far
- FTs grew too big at the expense of Series & OCs, and at the expense of due processes
  - Editorial unbalance with FTs contributing more than two thirds of the content, and topics redundancy (among FTs and between them and Series)
  - GEs (some not experienced w/ ComMag) mange larger proportion of the content, while ComMag’s reservoir of editors underutilized
  - Cases of too many GEs per FT, up to 4 FTs/year GEs, and some with minor contributions
  - Submission guidelines often disregarded, leading to differential treatment of manuscripts
Issues We are Trying to Attend to (2/2)

▸ ... FTs grew at the expense of due processes (Cont.)
  - Submission deadlines always extended, even if not needed, resulting in excessive delays, and multi-part FTs scattered over calendar years (lacking continuity/sense)
  - Most FTs produced Journal-type papers
  - Many had review-process issues
  - Other tracks (Series & OC) affected/infected, and we started to see papers accepted/rejected for wrong reasons
  - OC queues got much longer
  - Cost issues

What have we been doing throughout 2018?
**Work Done So Far**

- Restructuring and modernizing ComMag Series
  - Discussed next
- Updating and improving the magazine policies and guidelines to make them easier to understand and implement by all constituencies; and unifying them across all three tracks
- Starting to adapt Manuscript Centeral, fix templates, and automated reminders
- Encouraging our community to produce high quality FTs focusing on unique innovative subjects while observing the same guidelines applied on all other tracks

**New Series Structure**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>New Series</th>
<th>Included Scopes of Old Series</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Data science and Artificial Intelligence for Communications</td>
<td>Network Testing and Analytics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internet of Things and Sensor Networks</td>
<td>Ad hoc and Sensor Networks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Military Communications and Networks</td>
<td>Automotive Networking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mobile Communications and Networks</td>
<td>Radio Communications</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Network and Service Management</td>
<td>Network and Service Management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Optical Communications and Networks</td>
<td>Optical Communications</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Design and implementation of Devices, Circuits, and Systems</td>
<td>Circuits for Communications</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telecom Software, Network Virtualization, and Software Defined Networks</td>
<td>Consumer Communications and Networking</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Vertical topics such as Green, Security, and others can fall where applicable
- Telecom/Network Education is tested by FTs
Series Editors (SEs)

- Data Science and Artificial Intelligence for Communications
  - Irena Atov, Kwang-Cheng Chen, and Shui Yu
- Design and Implementation of Devices, Circuits, and Systems
  - Bernard Fong and Haesik Kim
- Internet of Things and Sensor Networks
  - Ozgur B. Akan, Sergey Andreev, and Ciprian Dobre
- Military Communications and Networks
  - Kevin Chan and Frank Trethan Johnsen
- Mobile Communications and Networks
  - Tom Alexander, Wojciech Mazurczyk, Amitabh Mishra, and Alberto Perotti
- Network and Service Management
  - George Pavlou and Juergen Schoenwaelder
- Optical Communications and Networks
  - Xiang Liu and Zuqing Zhu
- Telecom Software, Network Virtualization, and Software Defined Networks
  - Walter Cerroni, Alex Galis, Kohei Shiomoto, and Mohamed Faten Zhani

Today:

- Series (completely restructured)
  - Data Science and Artificial Intelligence for Communications
  - Design and Implementation of Devices, Circuits, and Systems
  - Internet of Things and Sensor Networks
  - Military Communications and Networks
  - Mobile Communications and Networks
  - Network and Service Management
  - Optical Communications and Networks
  - Telecom Software, Network Virtualization, and Software Defined Networks
- Open Call
- FTs already populating our calendar thru Sept. 2019
- Improved guidelines for authors, reviewers, and editors, https://www.comsoc.org/publications/magazines/ieee-communications-magazine
Upcoming Feature Topics

Tentative Calendar Thru August 2019

- Channel Models and Measurements for 5G
- Multi-Sensory Human Bond Communication
- Applications of Artificial Intelligence in Wireless Communications
- Smart Infrastructures for Crowd Management
- The Quest for Information Centric Networking
- Future Internet: Architectures and Protocols
- High-Speed Copper and Coaxial Broadband
- Modern Railways: Communications Systems and Technologies
- More FTs: www.comsoc.org/commag/call-for-papers

Next

- Reviewers Database
## Publication and Submission Statistics

**Six-month window from April 1, 2018 through September 30, 2018**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tracks</th>
<th>Number of Articles Published (earlier submissions)</th>
<th>%</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Series</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>13.55</td>
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<tr>
<td>Open Call</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>18.71</td>
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<tr>
<td>FTs</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>67.74</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>155</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tracks</th>
<th>Number of Submissions</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Series</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Open Call</td>
<td>170</td>
<td>35.42</td>
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<tr>
<td>FTs</td>
<td>214</td>
<td>44.58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>480</strong></td>
<td><strong>100</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Publication Statistics (2/3)

Oct 2017 - March 2018 Interval
- Series (27%)
- Open Call (14%)
- Feature Topics (59%)

April 2018 - Sept 2018 Interval
- Series (13.55%)
- Open Call (18.71%)
- Feature Topics (67.74%)

Acceptance Rate ~ 20%

Submission Statistics (3/3)

Oct 2017 - March 2018 Interval
- Series (16%)
- Open Call (13%)
- Feature Topics (65%)

April 2018 - Sept 2018 Interval
- Series (20%)
- Open Call (34%)
- Feature Topics (40%)
Editors’ Retirement, hiring, performance measures, and promotions

Recognizing Retired Colleagues

Editors Hiring and Retirement

- Service term: 3 years, renewable for 2 more
- 8 AE hired in early 2018; 2 more anticipated
- 22 Coleagues finished their terms
- 12 new SE hired
- The magazine issue paper certificate to all retiring editors. Plaques have been issued however for special contributions and to each colleague whose service extended to 5+ years
- Certificates and Plaques shall be mailed after GC2018, four colleagues who are attending the conference are receiving theirs today
Recognizing Retiring Colleagues Who are Present Here in Abu Dhabi

- **Madjid Merabti**, Series Editor, Consumer Communications and Networking Series
- **Dave Michelson**, Communications Education and Training
- **Honggang Zhang**, Series Editor, Green Communications and Computing Networks Series

Questions!
Thank You for your contributions to the success of the IEEE Communications Magazine