



Meeting Minutes

14 December 2020 – Virtual

Document Title:	Meeting Minutes
Meeting:	IEEE GC 2020 CSIM Meeting
CSIM - TC Chair:	Burak Kantarci
CSIM-TC Vice-Chair:	Nizar Zorba
CSIM-TC Secretary:	Angelos Antonopoulos
Meeting Recorder:	Angelos Antonopoulos
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Purpose of Meeting

Annual meeting of the IEEE Technical Committee on Communications Systems Integration and Modeling (CSIM-TC) which took place in the context of IEEE Globecom 2020 (virtually due to COVID-19).

Agenda

Item	Topic
1.	Welcome and Introduction
2.	Approval of the Agenda
3.	Approval of Meeting Minutes IEEE ICC 2020 (online)
4.	CSIM status
5.	CSIM Steering Committee
6.	CSIM Secretary Election
7.	CSIM Newsletter
8.	ComSoc Students' Competition
9.	ComSoc Awards
10.	Special Interest Groups (SIGs)
11.	Publications/Member support and evolution
12.	COVID-19 Research in CSIM
13.	CSIM Online Seminars
14.	Sponsored Events
15.	Standardization activities
16.	CSIM Achievements and Action Points
17	Other Business/Adjournment

List of Participants

No	Name	Affiliation	Country
1	Burak Kantarci	University of Ottawa	Canada
2	Nizar Zorba	Qatar University	Qatar
3	Angelos Antonopoulos	Nearby Computing S.L.	Spain
4	Eirini Eleni Tsiropoulou	University of New Mexico	USA
5	Petros Spachos	University of Guelph	Canada
6	Sudip Misra	IIT Kharagpur	India
7	Christos Verikoukis	CTTC	Spain
8	Symeon Papavassiliou	National Technical University of Athens	Greece
9	Christos Tselios	Citrix Systems Inc	Greece
10	Nelson Fonseca	State University of Campinas	Brazil
11	Michele Polese	Northeastern University	USA
12	Murat Simsek	ICSI Berkeley	USA
13	Giuliano Casale	Imperial College	UK
14	Claudio Fiandrino	IMDEA Networks Institute	Spain
15	Virginia Pilloni	University of Cagliari	Italy
16	Stefano Giordano	University of Pisa	Italy
17	Luca Foschini	University of Bologna	Italy
18	Andrea Capponi	University of Luxembourg	Luxembourg
19	Ramon Agüero	University of Cantabria	Spain
20	Jonathan Rodriguez	Instituto de Telecomunicacoes	Portugal
21	Amr El-Wakeel	Queen's University	Canada
22	Michel Kulhandjian	University of Ottawa	Canada
23	Shiwen Mao	Auburn University	USA
24	Michael Devetsikiotis	The University of New Mexico	USA
25	Zhiyan Chen	University of Ottawa	Canada
26	Mubashir Husain Rehmani	Cork Institute of Technology	Ireland
27	Kun Yang	University of Essex	UK
28	Damla Turgut	University of Central Florida	USA
29	Giorgio Quer	Scripps Research	USA
30	Moayad Aloqaily	xAnalytics Inc.	Canada
31	Safa Otoum	xAnalytics Inc.	Canada
32	John Vardakas	Iquadrat	Spain
33	Melike Erol-Kantarci	University of Ottawa	Canada
34	Mianxiong Dong	Muroran Institute of Technology	Japan
35	Didem Cicek	University of Ottawa	Canada
36	Alessio Botta	University of Napoli Federico II	Italy
37	Frank Li	University of Agder	Norway
38	Abd-Elhamid M. Taha	Alfaisal University	Saudi Arabia
39	Weihua Zhuang	University of Waterloo	Canada
40	Sherman Shen	University of Waterloo	Canada
41	Xuemin Shen	University of Waterloo	Canada
42	Vincent Chan	ComSoc President	USA
43	Hussein Mouftah	University of Ottawa	Canada
44	R R Venkatesha Prasad	TU Delft	NL
45	Jason Liu	University of Ottawa	Canada
46	Fabrizio Granelli	University of Trento	Italy

Meeting Minutes

1. Welcome and Introduction

Burak (CSIM chair) opened the meeting and welcomed the participants. The meeting was held online due to the COVID-19 situation. Vincent Chan (ComSoc President) attended the meeting.

2. Approval of the Agenda

The agenda was presented to the attendees and approved.

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes IEEE ICC 2020 (held online)

The committee unanimously approved the minutes of the last CSIM TC meeting at IEEE ICC 2020. The minutes are also available online at the CSIM website.

4. CSIM status

Burak explained the CSIM scope and domains of interest, as well as the process and stages for the members' involvement. He also provided some information about CSIM chairs with other roles in IEEE positions. He mentioned the number of members (753 at the moment of the meeting) and he provided details for subscribing in the TC. Burak also provided definitions about CSIM members and CSIM active members. The active members have also voting rights. The status of CSIM's social media was also provided (e.g., 405 members in LinkedIn).

5. CSIM Steering Committee

Burak mentioned the CSIM steering committee, which is formed by past CSIM chairs, collaborates with the officers to ensure the smooth operation of the CSIM TC.

6. CSIM Secretary Election

The term for the current Chair of CSIM-TC is ending at the end of this year. According to the P&Ps, Nizar Zorba and Angelos Antonopoulos will be elevated to the role of Chair and Vice-Chair, respectively. Therefore, an election via online voting is going to be held to fill in the CSIM Secretary position

As per CSIM P&Ps, a **nomination and election committee has been formed** to identify the candidates for the election with the following names (in alphabetic order following the subcommittee chair):

- **Nelson Fonseca (chair) (University of Campinas, Brazil)**
- Michael Devetsikiotis (University of New Mexico, USA)
- Stefano Giordano (University of Pisa, Italy)
- Hussein Mouftah (University of Ottawa, Canada)
- Christos Verikoukis (CTTC, Spain)

- **Luca Foschini (University of Bologna, Italy)**
- **Jonathan Rodriguez (Instituto de Telecomunicações, Portugal)**
- **Christos Tselios (Citrix Systems Inc, Greece)**

Online voting will take place between 29 December 2020 – 4 January 2021.

Instructions and information about the candidates have been communicated to voting members on 28 November 2020. A reminder will be sent on 28 December, and a second reminder will be sent on 3 January.

7. CSIM Newsletter

Burak provided details and the table of contents of the last CSIM Newsletter (Fall 2020). The newsletter includes information about awards and distinctions granted to CSIM members, past and upcoming CSIM events (e.g., conferences, special issues, etc.) and research projects by CSIM members, among others. The Newsletter was distributed to the CSIM members through mailing list at the end of November, and it will also be available in the website. Angelos, who was the responsible editor for the newsletter, thanked the contributors and mentioned that the participation is every time higher. He also mentioned that some inputs were not relevant to the Newsletter and have not been included (explanations have been provided to the contributors) and he said that the Newsletter is a good way to be aware of the activities (apart from the mailing list). Burak explained further the issue for non-relevant inputs, which are mainly distinctions of highly cited article, mentioning that in future CSIM meetings, the authors of such works will be invited to briefly present their work. In this way, it is also expected that the engagement with the CSIM will be increased.

8. COMSOC Students' Competition

Burak presented some aspects of the ComSoc student competition (prizes, goal, submission process). He also provided statistics of the last student competition, where Luca Foschini represented CSIM in the selection committee. The winners are as follows:

- FIRST PRIZE
 - ***Microfluidic Networks: the Future of Human Integrated Communication Systems***
HAMIDOVIC Medina Johannes Kepler University Linz Austria
- SECOND PRIZE
 - ***AirEmergCom: Airborne Emergency Communication System with Millimeter-Wave Beamforming***
ZHU Lipeng Beihang University China
 - ***Recycling Radio Waves for the Wide Adoption of Precision Agriculture***
VOUGIOUKAS Georgios Technical University of Crete Greece

9. COMSOC Awards

Burak presented some aspects of the ComSoc Young Researcher Award for EMEA. Luca Foschini was the chair of the selection committee. The first prize was awarded to:

- Weizhi Meng, Technical University of Denmark (Denmark)

Here the two outstanding young researchers for the IEEE ComSoc Young Researcher Award for EMEA 2020

- Yuanwei Liu, Queen Mary University of London (UK)
- Madhusanka Liyanage, University College Dublin (Ireland)

Burak also presented the process for the IEEE ComSoc Distinguished Service Award for EMEA, where Mohsen Guizani, Qatar University (Qatar) was awarded *for outstanding service to IEEE Communications Society in the EMEA Region*.

10. Special Interest Groups (SIGs)

Burak presented the active CIMS SIGs, focusing on the activities of the SIG “Converged Optical Wireless Technologies for 5G Networks: Modeling, Performance Evaluation and Optimization” led by J. Vardakas, N. Pleros and B. Kantarci. John Vardakas presented the objectives and activities of the SIG during the last two years, where several seminars and one workshop have been organized. Vincent Chan asked that the connection of this SIG with other ComSoc TCs should be identified in order to enforce potential collaborations.

11. Publications/Member support and evolution

Burak mentioned that CSIM will support proposals for Special Issues related to CSIM scope in prestigious journals. He also presented a list with the ComSoc-oriented Special Issues organized by CSIM members, mentioning that more SIs are listed in the newsletter. Regarding the member evolution, Dr. Melike Erol-Kantarci was nominated as a Distinguished Lecturer.

12. COVID-19 Research in CSIM

Dr. Giorgio Quer (who is also a DL that had been nominated by CSIM, as well) presented their study Wearable sensor data and self-reported symptoms for COVID-19 detection published in Nature Medicine. SDr. Quer gave also several distinguished lectures on COVID-19.

Dr. Damla Turgut presented their research on COVID-19 and the possible extensions on their work, while Christos Verikoukis participated in a WS organization on GC20 on COVID-19, where 5 papers were accepted and 9 speakers participated.

13. CSIM Online Seminars

An upcoming seminar was announced, which will take place on January 22nd 2021, 11:00 EST:

Title: “Network theory and its application to energy minimization in networks”

Speaker: Dr. Erol Gelenbe, *Institute of Theoretical and Applied Informatics, Polish Academy of Sciences, FIEEE, FACM, Chevalier de la Legion d'Honneur.*

Details will be announced soon.

14. Sponsored Events

Regarding the technical endorsement of conferences and workshops, Burak presented the three (3) events that have been endorsed by CSIM (Luca Foschini is the responsible officer) since the last meeting in IEEE ICC 2020.

Burak presented the chairs in the future sponsored events (GC, CAMAD, ICC) and the CQRM submitted papers in during the last few years. The main target is to maintain mainly 6% of the total submissions.

25th IEEE CAMAD: Stefano Giordano thanked Luca and the TPC chairs. He provided statistics on the submissions (95 submissions, 48% acceptance rate). The event took place online, organizing: 8 technical sessions, 3 keynote speeches, 1 tutorial, 1 COVID-19 panel and 1 industrial panel.

IEEE CAMAD 2021: Jonathan Rodriguez presented the organizing team of the upcoming IEEE CAMAD. IEEE CAMAD 2021 will take place in Porto.

15. Standardization activities

Stefano Giordano presented the standardization activities in the context of CSIM. He presented the expanding areas, highlighting that new sectors appear, relevant to societal issues. It is of CSIM's great interest to participate in IEEE journals and conferences with scope on standardization.

16. CSIM Achievements and Action Points

Burak summarized the main CSIM achievements: i) The number of the subscribers have been increased (Current members: 753), ii) Two newsletters per year have been published, iii) Best Paper Awards during the last 3 years, iv) Standardization activities, and iv) SIGs in cutting edge research topics. Burak also listed some action points, focusing on attracting more female members and members from under-representative communities.

17. Other Business/Adjournment

In closing, Burak mentioned that this was his last meeting as CSIM Chair, and the next meeting would be chaired by Nizar Zorba. Burak expressed his great appreciation to the current CSIM officers, Nizar and Angelos for their cooperation during his term as Chair. He also stated that he also greatly appreciated the remarkable and valuable support from the steering committee members (Nelson, Stefano, Fabrizio, Harry, Christos) and all other past chairs including but not limited to Mike, Hussein and Pascal. He finally thanked all CSIM volunteers and members for their commitment to the TC. Finally, he congratulated Nizar and Angelos for their upcoming elevation to Chair and Vice-Chair, respectively after the election of the new secretary in January 2021. Burak said he would continue to support Nizar and Angelos and the new secretary, and called everyone to support this new officer team.

The meeting was adjourned at 18:35 CET.