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#### CHAPTER REPORT

## Global Chapter Chairs Community Program and Congress 2022, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

by Ricardo Veiga, IEEE ComSoc Member Services Director

After more than 20 years from the last Global Chapter Chairs Congress (GCCC), we launched a special Global Chapter Chairs Community Program.

### GCC PROGRAM GOALS

It was envisioned as a community-focused multi-month program to teach, train, and share among chapter leaders while providing valuable feedback and input on ComSoc products and services. The ultimate goal was to increase engagement and membership for chapters and ComSoc as a whole.

The program was 50% focused on product and service development/review and 50% on chapter training, succession planning, and recruitment/retention education. The format was interactive, creating engagement, buy-in, and accountability. The work started in June 2022 via discovery meetings, committee formation, training program development, and product/service analysis. It included a Chapter Survey with a feedback analysis, and five one-hour virtual meetings with Small, Medium and Large chapters.

### GCC CONGRESS 2022

As part of this process, we organized an in-person Congress held in December 2022 at Globecom 2022, where chapter leaders and invited guests met in person to continue community education and connection opportunities, bringing together learned elements from the previous months' discoveries, and create actionable plans for 2023 for chapter and ComSoc success.

It included:

- 18 Sessions
- 40 Chapters
- 56 Participants



Left to right: Periklis Chatzimisios, Ricardo Veiga and Aleksandar Neskovic during one of the sessions.



Umair Ahmed Korai (at right), receiving the 2022 Membership and Global Activities Contribution Award from Ana Garcia Armada, Vice President, Member and Global Activities, and Ricardo Veiga, Director, Member Services.



Group photo. Participants: Raed Abdullah, Sana Abou-Shaaban, Pedro Aguilera, Wafeeq Ajoor, Wahab Almuhtadi, Nauman Aslam, Esmeralda Asurza, Kashif Bashir, Tuncer Baykas, Fawzi Behmann, Fredy Campos, Fabricio Carvalho, Sumit Chakravarty, Periklis Chatzimisios, Prashant Chugh, Paul Cotae, Kapal Dev, Gidy Flores, Luca Foschini, Ana Garcia Armada, Natalia Gaviria, Devon L. Gayle, Gustavo Giannattasio, Michele Girolami, Sandra Hidalgo, Larry Horner, Tao Huang, Umair Ahmed Korai, Pradeep Kumar, Doohwan Lee, Dan Lewis, Pascal Lorenz, T. S. N. Murthy, Andres Navarro, Aleksandar Neskovic, Alon Newton, Tamar Omer, Virginia Pilloni, Héctor Poveda, Diego José Rátiva Millán, Claudia Rivera, Yessica Saez, Luca Sanguinetti, Besma Smida, Reza Soleymani, Zafar Taqvi, Julia Upton, Julia Urbina-Pineda, Jesús Vázquez Bustos, Ricardo Veiga, Romeo Velarde, Newman Wilson, Zhensheng Zhang.

- 30 Countries represented

We started with a welcome introduction by ComSoc President, Sherman Shen. The first session was on Chapter Feedback and Needs Review, followed by Breakout sessions.

Chapter Training included the following sessions:

- Establishing the year's plan
- Higher Grade Recruitment & Student Recruitment/Best Practices
- VTools
- Pre-University STEM programs

- Engaging Young Professionals - Best Practices
- Mentoring Program
- Volunteer Recruitment & Succession Planning
- Chapter Funding
- Internet for All
- Sister Chapters Program and Student Branch Chapter matching
- Distinguished Lecturers
- Membership Development Cycle (Terminator/Half Year Dues, Student elevation cycle, Senior member elevation)

#### CHAPTER REPORT

## IEEE ComSoc Iraq Chapter Scientific Activities through Year 2022

by Sattar B. Sadkhan, Chair of IEEE ComSoc Iraq Chapter

During the year 2022, the chapter participated in technically support (with IEEE Iraq Section) and enhancing the organization of 12 International conferences (technically sponsored by IEEE). These conferences are hold inside (12) Iraqi universities. Most of these conferences were held hybrid,

The main tasks of IEEE ComSoc Iraq chapter were working as volunteers to scientifically enhance the goodness of scientific and technical organization, and attracting academics (from Iraqi universities and from outside Iraq) for enhancing and participation in these conferences.

Two of these conferences hold in Kurdistan region in North of Iraq.

1. 8thIEC-2022: The 8th International Engineering conference sustainable Technology and development (IEC2021) in

February 24-25, 2022 at Ishik International university – Erbil city (Kurdistan Region).

2. 5th ICOASE2022, hold in (Zakho, Duhok and NTU) Universities in (Kurdistan Region)
3. 5thiiceta2021: 5th International Conference on engineering Technology and its Applications 2022, May 2022, at Islamic university, Al-Najaf City.
4. IICCIT'2022: 2022 Iraqi International Conference on Communication & Information Technologies (IICCIT) – in Basra University- Basra City, South of Iraq.
5. AEST-2022: The 2nd International Conference on advances in Engineering Science and Technology-2022- in Babylon University.
6. ICCITM-2021: 8th International conference on contemporary Information Technology and mathematics 2022, August 2022 at Mosul university, College of computer and Information technology, in Mosul City, North of Iraq.
7. ICPM2022: First International Conference for Physics and Mathematics 2022 in Anbar University- College of Pure science.
8. ICDSIC2022: International conference on Data science



8th IEC-2022- the 8th International Engineering Conference on advances in Computer and Civil Engineering Towards Engineering Innovations and Sustainability-2022 – in Ishik International conference.



AEST-2022- The 2nd International Conference on advances in Engineering Science and Technology-2022- in Babylon University.



- and intelligent computing 2022 in Kerbala University.
9. CSCTIT2022: 5th College of Science International Conference on Recent Trends in Information Technology 2022 in Mustansyriah University – science College.
  10. 3rd IT-ELA2021: 3rd International Conference of Information Technology to enhance E-Learning and other applications -2022, (December 24-25, 2021), at Baghdad University College, Baghdad City.

The main voluntaries tasks of the members of IEEE Iraq section and IEEE Comsoc Iraq chapter were concentrated to enhance (Scientifically) the holding and choosing the best suitable (with very good quality) of the pre-accepted papers to be upload to IEEE digital explore library. And also, to encourage the universities to go ahead in organizing (yearly) such important scientific conferences. And we visited these universities many times and discussed with their conferences organizers the importance of going ahead in establishing such conferences (with the existence of critical health status, and other difficulty states in some Iraqi cities).

Also, the IEEE Iraq ComSoc Chapter signed (20) local MoUs with (20) universities to hold their International conferences in 2023. These are:

1. With the Al-Muthana University-Science College: This conference will be hold in Al-Muthana city -South of Iraq.
2. Ishik University in Erbil (the 9th Conference)
3. Al-Qadisiya University.
4. Al-Ain University in Thi-qar City
5. Al-Mustaqbal University in Babylon City
6. Soran University in Erbil City
7. Lebanon France University in Erbil city
8. North Techniocal University in Mosul (3 conferences will be hold in this university)
9. Al-Farahidi University in Baghdad City
10. Baghdad Economic University College in Baghdad (the 4th Conference)
11. Pure Science College in Karbala City.
12. 6th International conference for Islamic University in Al-Najaf City.
13. 1st Int. Conference for Renewable Energy in Islamic University – in Al-Najaf City
14. 1st Int. Conference for Information Security in Islamic University in Al-Najaf City.



Signing with Al-Mustaqbal College University in Babylon city.



Signing MoU with the Soran University in Erbil City- Kurdistan Region.

15. Imam Jafar Al-Sadiq University in Al-Muthan City.
16. The 2nd International Conference for Imam Al-Kadhum University in Misan City.
17. 2nd International Conference for Alkitab University in Kirkuk City.

This means that in this year (2023) we have about 20 International Conference supported by IEEE, this will be clear and good message to the world that Iraqi academics have good results through what they surrounding them.

#### CONFERENCE REPORT

### 4th IEEE Middle East and North Africa Communication Conference (MENACOMM) 2022 by Sami Aldalahmeh, IEEE ComSoc Jordan Chapter Chair

The 2022 IEEE Middle East & North Africa COMMUNICATIONS Conference (MENACOMM 2022) was held on 6-8 December 2022 in Amman the capital of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. IEEE MENACOMM 2022 conference is technically co-sponsored by IEEE ComSoc chapters consortium (Jordan, Bahrain, Kuwait, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, Tunisia, Oman, Iraq, Morocco and Egypt). The conference is organized and sponsored by Al-Zaytoonah University of Jordan (ZUJ), IEEE Joint Communications and Signal Processing Society Jordan Chapter. MENACOMM 2022 is managed by a steering committee with representatives from all technical co-sponsor MENA ComSoc chapters.

IEEE MENACOMM 2022 theme will be “Advancing the Communication Vision,” in which the focus is on new technologies and trends that will shape how we preserve communication and its role in the future. The conference aims to showcase how new ideas in telecommunications, such as the use of machine learning, would transform the way such systems are designed and operated, in addition to their overreaching effect



IEEE MENACOMM 2022 Opening Ceremony.

on various applications such as virtual and augmented realities, machine-to-machine communication, the internet of things and everything and much more. As such, a new track was introduced titled “Machine Learning and Optimization for Wireless Systems” in order to allow the dissemination of research related to machine learning in modern communication systems.

As a specialised young conference, the IEEE MENACOMM 2022 was successful in attracting 85 paper submissions from 21 countries in only two months call-for-paper time window. Notably, the newly introduced machine learning track received

almost as many papers as conventional tracks, such as physical layer related track. Every paper was peer-reviewed by experts in the field. All accepted papers will be submitted for publication in IEEE Xplore and will be indexed in Scopus.

The conference was under the patronage of his excellency Dr. Abdullah Alnsour the chair of the board of the trustees of the Al-Zaytoonah University of Jordan. The opening ceremony was chaired by the Prof. Mohammed Al-Majali, the University president and the honorary conference chair. Then the conference chair and the IEEE ComSoc &SPS chapter Dr. Sami Aldalameh welcomed the guests and speakers. Dr. Ala'a Khalifa, the IEEE Jordan Section chair, talked about the current state of the section. Finally, Prof. Jacques Demerjian the conference's steering committee chair briefed the audience about the MENACOMM state of affairs.

We are fortunate to host high-calibre researchers as our keynote speakers. The first keynote speech was given by Prof. Raed Mesleh, the inventor of spatial modulation, which was titled "Internet of Things (IoT): Driving the Next Industrial Revolution." The second keynote speech was delivered by the IEEE ComSoc distinguished lecturer Prof. Sinem Coleri titled "AI

Based Ultra-Reliable Wireless Networked Control Systems in 6G." The final keynote speech was given by Prof. Dimitri Van De Ville, which is an IEEE SPS distinguished lecturer, titled "Signal Processing on Networks: From Graphs to Brains." The IEEE ComSoc Young Professionals (YP) also sponsored an exciting talk titled "Building Impact into Communication and Sensing Research for Young Professionals" given by Dr. Ali Zaidi from Leeds University, UK. Moreover, the Jordan IEEE YP with the cooperation with IEEE region 8 delivered a speech titled "Towards the Next-Generation Communication Systems" given by Dr. Ali Alfayly from Kuwait University and Dr. Nadine Abbas from the American University of Beirut.

As part of the conference, the MENACOMM's guest embarked on two tourist trips, to down town Amman and to the Pink City of Petra, and one of the world's wonders. The IEEE MENACOMM 2022 was a great opportunity for researchers and students from the MENA area and around the world to present novel research ideas, know about the new trends in communication research and it was a valuable chance for networking and collaboration among researchers and scientists.

#### DISTINGUISHED LECTURER TOUR

### Distinguished Lecturer Tour of Claudio da Silva in Brazil

by Fabrício Braga Soares de Carvalho, IEEE Latin America DLT and DSP Coordinator, Brazil

The Distinguished Lecturer Program (DLP) is an outstanding initiative to enable renowned communications technology experts to share their knowledge, expertise, and insights into the future of communications technology to IEEE ComSoc chapters and members.

During the pandemic that affected in-person activities around the world from 2020-2022, the virtual Distinguished Lecturer Program was responsible for providing high-class lectures to ComSoc members around the world. Several lectures were organized in each IEEE region during the pandemic.

With the expansion of vaccination and the reduction of the pandemic, different in-person activities were organized in differ-



Dr. Claudio da Silva speaking on his DLT in Brazil, 2022.

ent parts of the world to IEEE ComSoc members. In this context, a Distinguished Lecturer Tour was organized and held in different cities in Brazil during September 2022.

Dr. Claudio da Silva, a ComSoc Distinguished Lecturer, accepted the invitation to visit Brazil and share his knowledge and market experience with IEEE members from different parts of the country. In the end of September 2022, Dr. Claudio da Silva arrived in Brazil to present some exciting lectures in different cities of the country. Cities from different parts of Brazil were selected, aiming that professionals, undergraduate and graduate students and ComSoc members from different regions would benefit from the direct contact with a renowned lecturer.

A total of 6 lectures were presented by Dr. Claudio da Silva in three different cities in Brazil: Rio de Janeiro; Belém do Pará; and Santa Rita do Sapucaí. In the last city visited (Santa Rita do Sapucaí), Dr. Claudio da Silva was a keynote speaker in the 40th Brazilian Telecommunications and Signal Processing Symposium. The topics presented during this tour were "The IEEE 802.11 standard and its constant evolution to meet new demands," "An Introduction to Wi-Fi Sensing and the IEEE 802.11bf Standard" and "Enhancing Wi-Fi Sensing: Definitions, Features, and Applications of IEEE 802.11bf."

Based on the successful experience and the excellent feedback provided by the audience from the different cities visited by Dr. Claudio da Silva, IEEE ComSoc Latin America aims to organize more Distinguished Lecturer Tours in the region in the next years. Contact: Prof. Fabrício Braga Soares de Carvalho (fabricio.braga@ieee.org).

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