



June 2023
ISSN 2374-1082

CHAPTER REPORT

Welcome to the New IEEE Chile ComSoc Chapter Board!

by Miguel Gutiérrez Gaitán, Chair, and Diego Dujovne, Past Chair, IEEE ComSoc Chile Chapter

On January 15, 2023, the IEEE ComSoc Chile Chapter had its ExCom 2023-2024 launch meeting. On this occasion, Dr. Diego Dujovne, Past Chair and Associate Professor at Universidad Diego Portales (UDP), Chile, made the official transition of functions to the new Chair of the IEEE ComSoc Chile Chapter, Dr. Miguel Gutiérrez Gaitán, Assistant Professor at Universidad Nacional Andrés Bello (UNAB), Chile.

Prof. Miguel Gutiérrez Gaitán holds a PhD in Electrical and Computer Engineering from the University of Porto, Portugal, a MS in Telecommunications Engineering from the Polytechnic University of Turin, Italy, and a BS in Electronics Engineering from the Pontifical Catholic University of Valparaíso (PUCV), Chile.

Prof. Diego Dujovne holds a Ph.D. in Computer Science from the Université Nice-Sophia Antipolis, France, and a BS in Electronic Engineering from the National University of Córdoba (UNC), Argentina.

During this meeting, Prof. Diego Dujovne, and Ing. Pedro Aguilera, Past Secretary, and now Treasurer of the Chapter, highlighted the main activities and achievement of the past



Miguel Gutiérrez Gaitán
Chair



Diego Dujovne
Past Chair

term, offering mature reflections on the past experiences and ongoing challenges for the Chapter. On the other hand, Prof. Miguel Gutiérrez Gaitán, presented his plans, vision, and main ideas about the future of the Chapter, with focus on the development of internationalization and student branches.

Among the planned activities for the present term, the IEEE ComSoc Chile Chapter is glad to announce the technical sponsorship for the 2023 South American Conference on Visible Light Communications (SACVLC), to be held at the Universidad de Santiago de Chile (USACH), between November 8 and 10, 2023. Moreover, the IEEE ComSoc Chile Chapter is enthusiastic on participating in the 2023 ComSoc Sister Chapters Program Project, led by Prof. Mohab Mangoud and Prof. Ricardo Veiga, which will greatly benefit IEEE student branches worldwide. Lastly, also in the line of the internationalization plan, the whole new ExCom of IEEE ComSoc Chile Chapter is joining efforts in bringing to Chile, two IEEE ComSoc Distinguished Lecture Tours (DLTs) among different academic institutions, including UNAB, UDP, and USACH, among others.

To conclude, the IEEE Chile ComSoc Chapter invite all the local, regional, and international community to contact the new Chair, Prof. Miguel Gutiérrez Gaitán (miguel.gutierrez@unab.cl) to joint efforts and organize together further virtual, in-person, and hybrid activities around communication technology to “advance communications and networking technology for the betterment of humanity.”

CONFERENCE REPORT

WICE Event at GLOBECOM 2022 Promoting Visibility of Women Communications Engineers and Their Professional Profiles

by Lianet Mendez-Monsanto Suarez, WICE Student Travel Award Recipient, Bige Bige Deniz Ünlütürk, WICE Publicity Chair, Rute C. Sofia, WICE Industry Relation Deputy, Baek-Young Choi, WICE Chair

IEEE ComSoc Women in Communications Engineering (WICE) is a ComSoc Standing Committee dedicated to promoting the visibility and roles of women in communications engineering. A WICE event was held over two afternoons, on December 5th and 6th, 2022 during the 2022 IEEE Global Communications Conference (GLOBECOM) in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. It offered a place to connect and enrich professional growth.

The event included several sessions of technical discussions and professional development. The first day began with a welcome message from WICE chair Baek-Young Choi, followed by a technical panel on 6G and a mentoring event. The second day included a panel on professional and academic experience in ComSoc and a professional career coaching session.

Panel 1: “Large-Scale Sensing 6G IoT Services Towards Society, Challenges and Drivers”

The speakers in the first panel were Neeli Prasad (SmartAvatar B.V, NL), Marja Matinmikko-Blue (Oulu Univ, Finland), Peiyong Zhu (Huawei, USA) and Eduardo Cerqueira (Federal University of Pará, Brazil), moderated by Rute C. Sofia (fortiss, Germany). The topic of this panel was the deployment of large-scale sensing 6G IoT services. These 6G services are expected to be implemented over the next decade and promise to contribute to the future needs of society. To do so, different communications and sensing technologies must be integrated and coexist to deliver services related to immersive communications and the “Internet of Everything,” i.e., the application of IoT in a complete and constant mode. The speakers gave an overview of the main challenges and drivers to be able to deliver these services to society in the coming years.

Joint WICE/YP Mentoring Program Session: The Power of a Mentor/Mentee Partnership

A mentoring program session was jointly organized by WICE, the Young Professionals (YP) of ComSoc and the Member & Geographic Activities Council (MGA-C). The organizers were Baek-Young Choi (WICE chair, University of Missouri – Kansas City, USA), Periklis Chatzimisios (YP chair, International Hellenic Univer-

sity, Greece and University of New Mexico, USA) and Newman Wilson (IEEE ComSoc MSB MVRC on Mentoring Co-Chair).

The invited mentors were people with extensive experience in various fields. We had the pleasure of having a wide list of mentors, Ana García Armada (WICE Past-Chair, Universidad Carlos III de Madrid, Spain), Wendi Heinzelman (University of Rochester, USA), Neeli Prasad (SmartAvatar B.V, NL), Damla Turgut (University of Central Florida, USA), Bige Deniz Ünlütürk (Michigan State University, USA), Yessica Saez (Universidad Tecnológica de Panamá), Robert Schober (Friedrich-Alexander University of Erlangen-Nuremberg, Germany), Ashutosh Dutta (Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Lab and IEEE Future Networks Initiative, USA), Ekram Hossain (Samsung AI Center Montreal, Canada), Luca Foschini (University of Bologna, Italy), Michele Polese (Northeastern University, USA) and Dan Lewis (LCRA, USA).

First, an introduction of the activity was given with the participation of ComSoc BoG Xuemin (Sherman) Shen (President of ComSoc), Ana García Armada (Vice President MGA of ComSoc) and the organizers of the session. After this, multiple parallel mentoring sessions were organized in small groups in rotation, in a close and interactive way. Participants were able to meet and talk with mentors, ask questions about their academic and professional careers, and receive advice for career growth. It was also a great opportunity for early researchers to network and connect with each other.

Panel 2: “Growing with ComSoc: From Student Member to Fellow”

In the second panel, the invited speakers presented their experiences and opportunities they had as members of IEEE ComSoc at different stages of their academic and professional careers. The panelists were Mallellu Sai Prashanth (Tech Mahindra/Vardhaman College of Engineering, India), Michele Nogueira (Federal University of Minas Gerais, Brazil) and Rose Hu (Utah State University, USA), moderated by Juliana Freitag Borin (University of Campinas, Brazil) and Dianne Scherly Varela de Medeiros (Universidade Federal Fluminense, Brazil). The speakers were at diverse stages of their IEEE ranks, and talked about their personal career journey and special opportunities they had as IEEE members from their early days as students, their first times attending a WICE event, Globecom, etc. In addition to learning about the latest technologies and research, they explained how their involvements in the IEEE Society have given them more opportunities of involvements, helped them making friends with other members, and led them to achieve their goals, and fulfill their ambition.

Professional Career Coaching

We had a blast with Dr. Grace Lee, from Mastery Insights, Canada, as the speaker in the professional career coaching sessions. She is an international executive career coach. She is also a neuroscientist, researcher, and student of life, and her studies and passion have made her a leading expert on activating leadership and performance potential.

In the first professional career coaching session “*Session 1: Communication Authority Masterclass*,” entitled “how to demonstrate confidence, competence, and command to the toughest audiences along your career path,” she highlighted that most people focus on developing technical skills, and often ignore



Group picture in the professional career coaching session.



Mentoring program session, groups (left), Xuemin (Sherman) Shen (center), Ana García Armada (right)



Baek-Young Choi, WICE Chair (right), and Ana García Armada, VP MGA (left), with two WICE Student Travel Grant Recipients Giulia Torcolacci and Lianet Mendez

the importance of “softer” skills, such as the ability to communicate effectively. She outlined various techniques to converse and convey your message and showed the importance of this in the work environment.

In the second session, “*Session 2: Activating Leadership*,” described as “how to build inspired teams that stay engaged and in momentum even if this is your first time leading,” she taught how to empower and awake leadership and why this is essential in our professional careers. Dr. Grace Lee was an excellent communicator, staying close to the audience at all times, both those present in person and those connected remotely, asking them to turn on the camera and interacting with them. She listened carefully to the attendees’ questions and explained very useful ideas. Attendees stated that this was one of Globecom’s best events.

Final Remarks

Fortunately, it has been noted that the number of female attendees in GLOBECOM has especially increased compared to previous events. One of the participants pointed out that, at her first conference as a Ph.D. student (one of the past GLOBECOMs about 20 years ago), she did not see attendees as diverse as they are now. She is very happy to see that there are many more women today compared to those years, when she was one of the few. Another participant expressed that she was excited this year to see more women engineers, unlike years

ago when she was the only one among hundreds of people. Certainly, we must continue to promote the visibility and roles of women in this area, as there is still a shortage of female engineers. One of the mentors' advice to the attending women mentees was to "be loud and speak up, let the last person in the back of the room hear you."

Special acknowledgement is made to IEEE ComSoc and WICE, it has been a pleasure to have this WICE event, which has been rewarding and inspirational. We hope to see you at the next ones!

CHAPTER REPORT

IEEE ComSoc Montreal Chapter Winner of the 2022 NA Chapter Achievement Award

by Anader Benyamin-Seeyar, Chair, and Reza Soleymani,
Vice-Chair, IEEE ComSoc Montreal Chapter, Canada

MAIN ACTIVITIES

IEEE Montreal Chapter has been working towards benefitting from hybrid activities that took place during Year 2022. This concept was highly efficient to engage with our membership and inform them about all good, distinguished presentations that were offered within Canada and beyond.

In fact, we did engage our Students, Young professional members, Life members, and Industrial relations group. We ran various programs for students such as organizing workshops, conferences, and seminars. Within these programs, we helped with creating direct communications between students and YPs with various Industrial enterprises, Governmental, and some other agencies.

These activities were in addition to the DLTs and DSPs programs that we ran for our Chapter membership. In fact, in Year 2022 our student members attended at our Section's Research Boosts programs ran by YPs which is bring top industrial inventors to our universities and make presentations on their innovative products and projects which can attract our students to be connected and start their networking process. In addition, we bring Life members, Students, Chapter members, YP, and WIE together for the Biannual gathering of Multi-Generational Congress (MGC) events. This is a 2 days event and offers significant opportunities for networking and getting the best knowledge from experienced engineers and pave their career path.

Montreal Communication chapter is an active entity to organize workshops, conferences such as upcoming ICC 2025 in Montreal. We will be engaged to organize, manage and be local arrangement Chairs. Running such events require teamwork and hard work. In many cases, we collaborate with other sections, such as Ottawa Chapter to benefit from each others' experiences and resources.

Montreal Communications /IT Chapter within IEEE Montreal Section's programs works hard to initiate various targeted educational programs audiences and is involved with national and international VDLs and other conference related activities. This chapter is involved with other precious programs such as STEM Outreach, YPs challenging presentations, and Industrial liaison to enhance our student membership within the Montreal Section.

During Year 2022, we had 14 Virtual and Face-to-face events including one DLT tour offered by Dr. Kafi Hassan and his tour started from Toronto Chapter, Kingston, Ottawa, Montreal, and it ended at Quebec City Chapter. It was another successful experience and such events will be continued into Year 2023 for our membership benefits.



Networking at IEEE ComSoc annual gathering at GLOBECOM 2022, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil



Networking at IEEE GLOBECOM 2022, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

IEEE MONTREAL CHAPTER'S PARTICIPATION TO THE GCCC 2022

2022 GCCC was held in beautiful city of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil December 4 and 5. The two days of the Conference were quite full starting from 8 AM and ending at 5 PM followed by very lively networking activities. The conference was chaired by Prof. Ricardo Veiga from Buenos Aires Chapter and managed by Trish Jaraicie, Director of Membership and Marketing, IEEE Communications Society. The meeting was organized skilfully and efficiently.

The conference started by chapters talking about their experience and discussing the usefulness of tools and measures that

ComSoc puts at chapters' disposal. Based on the outcome of the feedback from chapters the participants were organized into several breakout sessions. Each session discussed one of the issues raised in the feedback session.

After lunch the results of discussion in the three breakout groups were reported to the whole group and recapped. Higher Grade Recruitment & Student Recruitment.

There were several training sessions trying to enhance the best practices in High Quality Recruitment, Chapter Training: Pre-University STEM programs, Engaging Young Professionals.

There were also several sessions covering various important issues concerning the operation of the chapters. These included: Mentoring Program, Sister Chapters Program and Student Branch matching, Volunteer Recruitment & Succession Planning, Chapter Funding, Internet for All, Distinguished Lecturers program,



Networking at IEEE GLOBECOM 2022, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

15th IEEE Pakistan Student/Young Professionals/Women in Engineering Congress SIGHT 2022 Membership Drive of IEEE Communication Society

by Umair Ahmed Korai, MUET, Vice Chair IEEE ComSoc Karachi Section Chapter, and Moiz Rahman Memon, LUMHS, Treasurer IEEE Karachi Section, Pakistan

IEEE Communication Society (ComSoc) Karachi Chapter in collaboration with IEEE ComSoc Mehran University of Engineering and Technology (MUET) Jamshoro and Hamdard University Student Branch has organized a Membership Drive and Membership Drive Desk at 15th IEEE Pakistan Student / Young Professionals/Women in Engineering Congress SIGHT 2022 (PSYWCS'22) at Hamdard University Karachi on December 28-29, 2022. The purpose of this membership drive was to:

1. Share Benefits of IEEE and IEEE Communication Society
2. Provide the on-site registration facility

3. Inform about the student chapter of IEEE ComSoc and how to open a student chapter in their respective universities.
4. Projects/Competition in IEEE ComSoc.

Dr. Umair Ahmed Korai was the convener for the membership drive. During the membership drive of IEEE and IEEE Communication Society, around 13 students have registered/renewed their membership and about 40 students have registered/renewed their IEEE ComSoc Membership. The goodie bags were distributed among each one who was registering/renewing his/her IEEE ComSoc Membership. The goodie bags include:

1. A cup printed with IEEE and IEEE ComSoc logo
2. A notebook with printed IEEE and IEEE ComSoc logo
3. Pen with printed ComSoc text
4. A keychain with IEEE and IEEE ComSoc logo on each side.

In the end, there was an award distribution in PSYWCS'22 Hamdard University and Dr. Umair Ahmed Korai won the best advisor award for IEEE ComSoc MUET Student chapter.



Receiving the Award of Best Advisor of Student Chapter by Engr. Najeeb Haroon, Chairman Pakistan Engineering Council at 15th IEEE Pakistan Student/Young Professionals/Women in Engineering Congress SIGHT 2022.

GCN

GLOBAL COMMUNICATIONS NEWSLETTER

STEFANO BREGNI

Editor-in-Chief

Politecnico di Milano, Italy

Email: bregni@elet.polimi.it

FABRIZIO GRANELLI

Associate Editor

University of Trento, Italy

Email: fabrizio.granelli@unitn.it

IEEE COMMUNICATIONS SOCIETY — MEMBER AND GLOBAL ACTIVITIES

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PERIKLIS CHATZIMISIOS, CHAIR OF THE YP STANDING COMMITTEE

REGIONAL CORRESPONDENTS WHO CONTRIBUTED TO THIS ISSUE

Yessica Saez (yessica.saez@ieee.org)

Ewell Tan, Singapore (ewell.tan@ieee.org)

IEEE ComSoc
IEEE Communications Society

www.comsoc.org/gcn
ISSN 2374-1082