



March 2017  
ISSN 2374-1082

## MEMBERSHIP SERVICES

### 100 Issues of the New Global Communications Newsletter!

By Stefano Bregni, Vice-President for Member and Global Activities, Editor of the Global Communications Newsletter



Stefano Bregni

This issue of the *Global Communications Newsletter* has a special significance for me: it is Issue No. 100 under my responsibility as Editor!

Almost 10 years ago, I was appointed by Tom La Porta, at that time Director of Magazines of the IEEE Communications Society, to revive our Newsletter, whose publication had been discontinued a couple of years before.

After few months of work to set up the new Editorial Board and solicit the first contributions from ComSoc Chapters, publication resumed. Finally, Issue No. 1 of the new series of the GCN was ready. Ending a long period of absence, the February 2008 issue of *IEEE Communications Magazine* featured again our four light blue pages, opened by my introduction, "*The Global Communications Newsletter is Back!*".

Since then, the GCN has come a long way. We have worked to improve the variety of contents. We have been publishing more and more articles not exclusively from Chapters but also from other contributors, reporting news and events from all Regions.

## CHAPTER REPORT

### IEEE ComSoc Iraq Chapter Activities: Serving IEEE ComSoc Members in a Country at War

By Sattar B. Sadkhan, Chair of the IEEE ComSoc Iraq Chapter

The IEEE ComSoc Iraq chapter was established at the end of Nov. 2011. The chapter includes members from academic institutes, ministries (Communication, Science and Technology), and non-government wireless communication companies (especially Asia Cell and Kalimat).

During these past five years the Chapter has organized many scientific activities within Iraq, especially in co-sponsoring national and international conferences and workshops. There were also many scientific activities organized by the Iraq Chapter outside of Iraq, in India, China, and the U.K. Most of these activities were organized and planned by the founder of the ComSoc Iraq Chapter, Dr. Eng. Sattar B. Sadkhan, who is a Senior Member of IEEE, and who served as past chair of the IEEE Iraq Section for the period 2008-2014.

## ACADEMIC ACTIVITIES

In just one year, from June 2014 up to June 2015, the Chapter organized (co-sponsored) about 15 scientific activities throughout

We also worked on the graphical style. With the issue of October 2014 (No. 71), we abandoned the traditional old-style layout, nearly unchanged since the beginning, for the new sharp look of today. The current graphical layout dresses the articles with a contemporary style, which I hope readers appreciate as I do.

Whenever I have the opportunity, I like to affirm that our GCN is indeed "The Voice of the Chapters". Once again, I cordially invite all Chapter officers to contribute to the GCN by submitting the reports of their best activities. You do a lot of good things in your Chapter: please share with all ComSoc members and let everyone know!

Global  
**IEEE Communications**  
Magazine  
Newsletter  
February 2008

The Global Communications Newsletter Is Back!  
By Stefano Bregni, Editor



Dear Readers,  
It is with much pleasure that I introduce the first issue of the new series of the Global Communications Newsletter. I am grateful to Tom La Porta, former Director of Magazines for the IEEE Communications Society, for his trust in appointing me the Editor of the Newsletter, and to all Board members who are supporting me. The Newsletter appeared initially within each issue of IEEE Communications Magazine for a number of years. It was much well appreciated by readers due to the effort and commitment of my predecessor, Nicolas Ono, and of all Regional Correspondents. Nicolas will continue to help as a Regional Correspondent. I also count on his experience and suggestions in my first steps as Editor.  
Let me introduce the Regional Correspondents that stepped in now: Jim Ma and Rajan Doshi (USA), Alexander Bhatia (Australia), Milan Radovic (Belgium), Jozsef János (Poland), Marko Jagodic (Slovenia), Hosain Ali (France), Marko Mijovic (Serbia), Srinivas (India), José Luis Sánchez (Brazil), José Luis Vázquez González and Carlos Hincapié (Mexico), Igor Armentier (Paraguay), José David Cely (Colombia), Heiko Waldman (Brazil), Ram G. Gupta (India), Stan Zhang (Hong Kong), and Rohitashwa Mehta (Malaysia). Their responsibility will be to ensure appropriate coverage of all IEEE Regions by providing timely and interesting contributions from all Chapters and other regional entities.  
By resuming publication of the Newsletter, we aim to better serve the global communications community. The Newsletter will provide an excellent opportunity to present news and events related to communications around the world, as well as activities carried out by



IEEE Communications Society Chapters in greater detail.  
In general, articles published in the Global Communications Newsletter will not be technical papers or technical surveys. Rather, they will be short articles informing the IEEE Communications Society community about various activities carried out and organized in the four corners of the world by the many volunteers who are the true engine of the Society. Many Chapters organize interesting events several times a year: let our world community know about them! Also, input from telecommunication regional industry operators, and academia may be of great interest to our global community. Examples of suitable articles we plan to publish are: highlights from local ComSoc conferences, reports of Distinguished Lecturer Talks, reports of other technical events organized by IEEE Communications Society Chapters that may be of international interest, and updates on regional telecommunication markets.  
I invite all Chapter officers, as well as ComSoc volunteers, to plan to start immediately submitting such articles to the Global Communications Newsletter according to our guidelines. You can submit your contributions to the most appropriate Regional Correspondent or directly to me (email: bregni@ieee.org). The format of submission should be a simple email, including title, possibly a short abstract (< 50 words), and your article attached normally from 50 to 100 words.  
The relevance, timeliness, and interest of reports published in our Newsletter will depend on your cooperation. The willingness of everyone to contribute timely and informative reports are essential to ensure our success. We look forward to receiving your submissions.

Global Communications Newsletter • February 2008

Cover page of the Issue No. 1 of the new series of the Global Communications Newsletter, published in the February 2008 issue of the IEEE Communications Magazine.



Activities with the young people

the eight Iraqi cities. It was a great challenge for the Iraq Chapter members to organize these activities when considering the very critical safety status in many cities. The Chapter members took such responsibilities on themselves to organize these activities within many universities. The ComSoc Chapter is fighting against ISIS by continuing to organize activities with any group who wants to cooperate with the Iraq Chapter!

**National Scientific Events:** In March 2014, a scientific workshop with the theme, "The Role of Information and Communication Technology in Education" was organized at Basra University, in

(Continued on Newsletter page 2)

## COMSOC IRAQ CHAPTER/Continued from page 1

Basra City in southern Iraq. The workshop organized by Education College in cooperation with the Iraq ComSoc Chapter. The Chapter Chair delivered the opening lecture at this workshop on the topic, "The Required Infrastructure Communication Technologies to Support e-learning in Iraq".

In April 2015, the ComSoc Chapter, in cooperation with the Kufa University College of Computer and Mathematics, organized a scientific workshop on "E-Criminal". This workshop was one of many scientific activities organized within this university in the past four years in cooperation with the ComSoc Chapter. The Chair of the Chapter delivered the opening Lecture "The e-Criminal: Status and Challenges".

With Waset University, the ComSoc Chapter cooperated in an International Conference organized within the Education College in April 2015. The keynote lecture at the opening ceremony of the conference was given by the ComSoc Chapter Chair on the topic, "Multidiscipline in Information Security".

In February 2015, in Kirkuk City in northern Iraq, a scientific workshop was organized in cooperation with AL-Qalam University College. The Chairman of ComSoc chapter delivered the opening lecture on the "Status of the Infrastructure of Communication Technologies Inside Iraq".

In January 2015, the ComSoc Chapter, in cooperation with Islamic University College in Babylon City, organized a workshop on the topic, "5G Communication Technology". The ComSoc Chapter Chair delivered a lecture on "The Status of Communication Technologies used in IRAQ after 2003". In February 2015, at the same college, the ComSoc chapter organized a training course on "Robotics".

The ComSoc Chapter cooperated with the Iraqi Engineering Council and "Promising Minds" NGO to hold many petition ceremonies for the products of different people of different ages. A ceremony was held on 1 Sept. 2015 in Baghdad, with another ceremony planned for November 2015 at the time of this writing.

**International Conferences (Inside Iraq):** The First International



Waset International Conference.

Conference on Future Communication Networks (ICFCN'12) was organized in scientific cooperation with Al-Nahrain University in Baghdad at April 2012. Most of the members of the Scientific Committee and Technical Program Committee were Chapter members. The Chapter Chair organized a special session at this conference on the topic, "Iraq Communication Security: Status and Challenges".

On 18-19 December 2013 the Chapter scientific co-sponsored the International Conference on Electrical, Computer, communication, Power, Control Engineering (ICECCPCE'13) in Mosul City in Northern Iraq. One of the keynote lectures was given by the Chapter chair. The Conference was organized by the Mosul Technical College.

**Lectures (Outside Iraq):** Three lectures were given by the chair of the ComSoc Chapter outside Iraq about the role and activities of the Iraq ComSoc chapter inside and outside Iraq: at KL-University in India on 8-9 February 2012 with the postgraduate students on the status of the IEEE Iraq Section and IEEE Iraq ComSoc



Workshop in Basra City.



ICECCPCE'13 Conference.

## COMSOC IRAQ CHAPTER/Continued from page 2

Chapter, and their scientific responsibilities and activities inside Iraq; at Northampton University in the U.K. in October 2013 with the postgraduate students and academic staff of the Computer Engineering College, on the topic “Multidisciplinary in Information Security”; and at Zhejiang Congshang University in China on 26 December 2013 with the undergraduate and postgraduate students, on the topic “Multidisciplinary Prospective in Information Security”.



Visit to a primary school for displaced students, serving more than 150 displaced kids from different cities in North of Iraq, occupied by ISIS- forces since 2014. These families lived in Babylon City.

## SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION WITH THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATION

A national scientific conference was organized in cooperation with the Ministry of Communication in the capital city of Baghdad in 2011. Many Chapter members participated in the Scientific Committee of this conference. A special session on the topic, “Status of Communication Security in IRAQ after 2003” was organized by the chair of IEEE Iraq ComSoc Chapter.

## SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION WITH THE INDUSTRIAL SECTOR IN IRAQ

Iraqi engineers (generally) are in very difficult circumstances, especially after 2003. Most industry institutes and companies ceased operation for many reasons, and this has led to poor relations between the industrial and academic sectors. But even with such a fact, the IEEE Iraq ComSoc Chapter, through its chair (who is a member of the consultant staff on the National Industrial Committee), organized many activities within the Industry Ministry, and two workshops held in mid-2014 at Babylon University with all industrial companies operating in Baghdad and the Mid Euphrates Region. The main goals of this workshop were:

- Plan the “road map” for cooperation among industrial engineers in these companies and academic staffs at the universities in the Mid Euphrates Region.
- Establish opportunities for scientific cooperation among the industrial and academic sectors.
- Create opportunities for the industrial engineering sector to “re-establish the knowledge” through continuing education at the universities.

With all these goals, the ComSoc Chapter members did their best to provide support for the engineering background of the Iraqi industrial sector.

## SCIENTIFIC RELATIONS WITH THE OIL MINISTRY

The ComSoc Chapter established scientific relations with the Oil Ministry/Basra Oil Detection company. The first scientific workshop was organized in April 2015 in cooperation with this company and Basra University College for Science and Technology. The topic of the workshop was “Information and Communication Technologies”. The Chapter chair delivered the opening talk about the IEEE Iraq ComSoc Chapter and its role and aims in supporting the scientific requests and activities of the Oil Ministry and different companies within this Ministry.

## CONFERENCE REPORT

### SoftCOM 2016: Meeting of Academy and Industry

By Dinko Begusic, Nikola Rozic, Pascal Lorenz, Josko Radic, Petar Solic and Matko Saric, University of Split, FESB, Croatia; University of Haute Alsace, France

The 24th International Conference on Software, Telecommunications and Computer Networks (SoftCOM 2016) was held in the attractive ambience of the Radisson Blu Resort Hotel, Split, September 18–20. The Conference was organized by the University of Split, Faculty of Electrical Engineering, Mechanical Engineering and Naval Architecture (FESB) and Croatian Communications and Information Society (CCIS) under the auspices of the Ministry of Science, Education and Sports, Croatian Academy of Engineering and Croatian Regulatory Agency for Network Industries. The Conference was technically co-sponsored by the IEEE Communications Society (ComSoc).

Researchers and experts from industry, research institutes and universities from 30 countries around the world submitted a total

*(Continued on Newsletter page 4)*



A plenary talk titled “LOOOM: Defining Control Systems for 5G” has been presented by Sandor Albrecht, PhD, Director of Network Technology, Ericsson Research, Stockholm, Ericsson AB, Sweden. The session has been chaired by P. Lorenz, Univ. of Haute Alsac, France, I. Stupar, Ericsson N. Tesla and D. Begusic, University of Split, Croatia (left to right).

of 170 papers for presentation at SoftCOM 2016. Submitted papers were reviewed by more than 200 scientists from universities, institutes and ICT companies around the world, with 49%

of submitted papers being accepted for presentation within the technical program based on their contribution, relevance, conceptual clearness and overall quality.

At the opening ceremony the participants were welcomed on behalf of the organizers by Prof. Sven Gotovac, Dean of the Faculty of Electrical Engineering, Mechanical Engineering and Naval Architecture in Split; Prof. Simun Andelinovic, Rector of the University of Split; Zlatko Zevrnja, Prefect of the County of Split and Dalmatia; Prof. Pascal Lorenz, Chair of the IEEE ComSoc France Chapter; Prof. Mislav Grgic, Chair of the IEEE Croatia Section and the Dean of the Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computing in Zagreb; and Drazen Lucic, Ph.D., president of the Council of HAKOM. A plenary talk titled "LOOOM: Defining Control Systems for 5G", was presented by Sandor Albrecht, Ph.D., Director of Network Technology, Ericsson Research, Stockholm, Ericsson AB, Sweden.

The technical conference program featured 17 conference sessions, including four special sessions and three symposia: the Symposium on Environmental Electromagnetic Compatibility, the Symposium on Green Networking, and the Symposium on Smart Environment Technologies. The special sessions were focused on hot topics including: RFID Technologies and the Internet of Things, Ad Hoc and Sensor Networks, QoS in Wired and Wireless Networks, and Security and Digital Forensics.

Besides the scientific program, a professional workshop dedicated to the wide spectra of topics in ICT was organized, and six half-day tutorials were organized by worldwide recognized experts.

In conjunction with the SoftCOM 2016 Conference, a Business Forum was organized featuring two workshops and three panel sessions with the participation of managers, executives, experts, government and institution representatives. The Lean Innovation Workshop and the Fifth Workshop on Software Engineering in Practice attracted researchers from academia and professionals from industry to discuss challenges and new developments in the area of communications software production, with a special focus on Cloud based systems. The Lean Innovation Workshop was organized by Marko Bervanakis, and moderated by Toni Mastelic, Ph.D., Ericsson Nikola Tesla, Croatia. The Workshop on Software Engineering in Practice was organized by dr.sc. Darko Huljenic, Ericsson Nikola Tesla, Croatia. The Roundtable discussion on the topic "Development of Broadband Backhaul Infrastructure in Areas Lacking Sufficient Commercial Interest for Investments, using European Structural and Investment Funds (ESI)" was organized by Mario Weber, M.Sc., director



The PhD Forum (awards ceremony and poster presentation shown above) and the Roundtable "Broadband Internet Access" (panel session shown below) have been among the most attractive events.

of the Croatian Regulatory Authority for Network Industries. The Roundtable was particularly interesting for the representatives of local communities preparing projects for development of the broadband access infrastructure of the next generation.

The Roundtable on Entrepreneurship in ICT was organized by Ante Dagelec, M.S. Representatives from academic institutions and professionals from ICT companies discussed practical aspects in entrepreneurship in the area of ICT. The Roundtable included entrepreneurs with different backgrounds and previous experiences. The topics included the "cold start" problem, relations with the government, relations with the university, human resources, software outsourcing, etc.

The Ph.D. Forum provided an opportunity for Ph.D. students to present their work in the areas of ICT related to the SoftCOM 2016 Conference topics to a wider community of researchers from academia and industry. The forum was intended to encourage interaction and networking among Ph.D. students, as well as the audience. The Ph.D. Forum was organized as a poster session, preceded by a fast-paced introduction ("pitch talk") by each student, offering a preview of the posters. The forum involved academics and students from universities from Zagreb, Split, Osijek, and Rijeka. The Forum organized by Prof. Maja Matijasevic, Prof. Dinko Begusic, Asst. Prof. Ognjen Dobrijevic, and Asst. Prof. Petar Solic.

The presentations of the student projects pursued in the frame of the Ericsson Nikola Tesla Summer Camp 2016, were held within a special workshop session that was organized by Sasa Desic, M.Sc. and Goran Gasparovic (Ericsson Nikola Tesla).

The Welcome Reception by the Mayor of the town of Split was organized in the attractive ambience of the 1700 year old Diocletian Palace Basement in Split. The participants also had an opportunity to enjoy a visit to the historic fortress of Klis and the picturesque town of Trogir, which is listed in the UNESCO World Heritage Sites list.

More information about the SoftCOM 2016 Conference may be found at: <http://www.fesb.hr/softcom>

**GLOBAL COMMUNICATIONS NEWSLETTER**

**STEFANO BREGNI**  
Editor

Politecnico di Milano – Dept. of Electronics and Information  
Piazza Leonardo da Vinci 32, 20133 MILANO MI, Italy  
Tel: +39-02-2399.3503 – Fax: +39-02-2399.3413  
Email: [bregni@elet.polimi.it](mailto:bregni@elet.polimi.it), [s.bregni@ieee.org](mailto:s.bregni@ieee.org)

**IEEE COMMUNICATIONS SOCIETY**

STEFANO BREGNI, VICE-PRESIDENT FOR MEMBER AND GLOBAL ACTIVITIES  
CARLOS ANDRES LOZANO GARZON, DIRECTOR OF LA REGION  
SCOTT ATKINSON, DIRECTOR OF NA REGION  
ANDRZEJ JAJSZCZYK, DIRECTOR OF EMEA REGION  
TAKAYA YAMAZATO, DIRECTOR OF AP REGION  
CURTIS SILLER, DIRECTOR OF SISTER AND RELATED SOCIETIES

[www.comsoc.org/gcn](http://www.comsoc.org/gcn)  
ISSN 2374-1082