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# IEEE Communications Society Technical Committee on Transmission, Access and Optical Systems (TAOS)

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**Title:** Minutes of TAOS meeting held at GLOBECOM 2009, Honolulu, HI, USA  
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## 1 Participants

- Stefano Bregni, Politecnico di Milano, Italy, <bregni@elet.polimi.it>
- Jafar Elmighani, Univ. of Leeds, U.K. <j.m.h.elmighani@leeds.ac.uk>
- Tarek El-Bawab, Jackson State University, USA, <telbawab@ieee.org>
- Xavier Fernando, Ryerson University, Canada, <xavier@ieee.org>
- Michael Devetsikiotis, North Carolina State Univ., USA, <mdevets@ncsu.edu>
- Maode Ma, Nanyang Technological Univ., Singapore, <Maode\_Ma@pmail.ntu.edu.sg>
- Thanasis Manikas, Imperial College London, UK <a.manikas@imperial.ac.uk>

## 2 Meeting Minutes

The meeting of the Transmission, Access and Optical Systems (TAOS) Technical Committee (TC) was held in the Iolani Suite #7, Tapa Tower, Hilton Hawaiian Village, Honolulu, HI, USA, during Globecom 2009, on 3 December 2009 from 8.00am to 9:30am.

The chair S. Bregni welcomed all participants and introduced the agenda.

### 2.1 New TAOS Officers for Term 2010-2011

The current officers would expire with 2009, based on the usual timeline. Nevertheless, a candidate for the Secretary position has been not identified yet. Discussion followed on possible actions. Various solutions were proposed and evaluated. In conclusion, the meeting agreed to postpone decision and new officers appointments by 6 months to the next meeting in Cape Town, South Africa, at ICC2010.

By then, one or more suitable candidates for the Secretary position will have been identified. At the ICC2010 meeting, therefore, the current Chair S. Bregni will step down, the current Vice-Chair T. El-Bawab will be advanced to Chair, the current Secretary R. Subrahmanyam will be advanced to Vice-Chair, and the new Secretary will be elected.

*(Post-meeting note: the above solution has been also proposed to the VP-TA Mark Karol, who did not object).*

### 2.2 Update on TAC and GITC Meetings

Stefano Bregni gave an update on the TAC and GITC meetings held at the conference in previous days. The following points were discussed in particular:

- DL nominations. The TAOS nominee, Dr. Ahmed Kamal, was not accepted for the second time.
- Fellow nominations. S. Bregni encouraged TAOS members to propose strong candidates to the IEEE Fellow grade. Potential candidates should have strong record of accomplishments to

maximize their chance of approval. The number of approved IEEE Fellows is a merit factor in the recertification process of the TC that proposed them to the evaluation committee.

## 2.3 Report and discussion on current TAOS activities

Stefano Bregni updated everybody about TAOS' involvement in major IEEE ComSoc conferences. TAOS endorses symposia in ICC and GLOBECOM and contributes to their technical management, by providing TPC members and co-chairs, as listed below:

- *GLOBECOM 2009*, Honolulu, Hawaii, USA. S. Bregni has been Symposia Chair. TAOS endorses the Optical Networks and Systems Symposium (A. Bononi, co-Chair) in cooperation with the ONTC and CS&R TCs, and the General Symposium on Selected Areas in Communications (T. El-Bawab, Chair). TAOS is the primary sponsor of the new tutorial "Radio over Fiber – An Optical Technique for Wirreless Access", by Xavier Fernando.
- *2009 NIST-ATIS Workshop on Synchronization in Telecommunications Systems (WSTS '09)*, Broomfield, Colorado, March 2009: TAOS endorses this conference and Ravi Subrahmanyam is on the steering committee.
- *IEEE ICC 2011*, Kyoto, Japan, June 2011. TAOS endorsed the Optical Networks and Systems Symposium (S. Bregni, co-Chair) in cooperation with the ONTC and CS&R TCs and the General Symposium on Selected Areas in Communications (T. El-Bawab, co-Chair).
- *IEEE GLOBECOM 2010*, Miami, FL, USA. S. Bregni is Lead Co-Chair of the General Symposium on Selected Areas in Communications. TAOS endorses the Optical Networks and Systems Symposium (F. Cugini, co-Chair) in cooperation with the ONTC and CS&R TCs, and the General Symposium on Selected Areas in Communications, track Emerging Technologies for Access Systems and Networks (S. Bregni, co-Chair). R. Subrahmanyam is working with M. Kincaid to propose a D&D Session on Emerging Topics in Telecommunications Synchronization.
- *14th International Conference on Optical Networking Design and Modeling (ONDM 2010)*, Kyoto, Japan, February, 2010. TAOS is endorsing this conference and provides three TPC members (Tarek El-Bawab, Carla Raffaelli, Bas Huiszoon).
- *2010 NIST-ATIS-TELCORDIA Workshop on Synchronization in Telecommunication Systems (WSTS '10)*, March 9-11, Broomfield, CO, USA. Despite initial attempts, this workshop could not be sponsored by ComSoc for 2010 due to its endorsement by Telcordia (a for-profit company). However, its subject matter is within the scope of TAOS and TAOS provides TPC members (R. Subrahmanyam and S. Bregni are on the steering committee).
- *IEEE 16th European Wireless Conference 2010 (EW 2010)*, Lucca, Italy, December 28-30, 2009. TAOS endorsed this conference and provided some TPC members.
- *IEEE ICC 2009*, Dresden, Germany, May 2009. TAOS endorsed the Optical Networks and Systems Symposium in cooperation with the ONTC and CS&R TCs and the General Symposium on Selected Areas in Communications.
- *IEEE 2009 7th International on Information, Communications and Signal Processing (ICICS 2009)*, Macau, Dec. 2009. TAOS endorsed this conference and provides some TPC members.
- *IEEE 6th International Symposium on High Capacity Optical Networks and Enabling Technologies (HONET 2009)*, Alexandria, Egypt, December 28-30, 2009. TAOS endorsed this conference and provided some TPC members.

Moreover, the following other important roles of distinguished TAOS members in the IEEE Communications Society were highlighted:

- S. Bregni has been Distinguished Lecturer (DL) of the IEEE ComSoc since 2005. His term expired with 2008, but in 2009 he had anyway two more DLTs, not funded by the ComSoc DLP but funded by local chapters or other sources. DL lectures were given in:

- San Salvador (keynote speaker of IEEE CONVETEL 2009), Panama (IEEE Communications Society Charter), September 2009;
- Malaysia (University Putra Malaysia, Serdang, Selangor Kuala Lumpur), July 2009.
- S. Bregni has been elected Member at Large on the Board of Governors, is Director of Education, voting member of the Globecom/ICC Technical Content (GITC) committee, Editor of the IEEE Global Communications Newsletter.
- S. Gorshe (former TAOS chair) is Associate Editor-in-Chief of the IEEE Communications Magazine.
- M. Kincaid (former TAOS chair) has been GIMS chair for 2 years.

Finally, S. Bregni recalled that a special issue of IEEE Communications Magazine on “Synchronization over Ethernet and IP in Next-Generation Networks” was proposed by TAOS, and has been approved by the editors (S. Gorshe and Nim Cheung). It is tentatively planned for February 2011. S. Bregni and R. Subrahmanyam are the guest editors for this special issue.

## 2.4 Proposals for Future Activities

T. El-Bawab pointed out the importance of xDSL technologies and their relevance for TAOS. J. Elmirghani proposed to involve in TAOS some people he knows in Alcatel.

J. Elmirghani will propose a Feature Topic on "Green Optical Systems and Networks" for IEEE Communications Magazine. TAOS will endorse this proposal. (*Post-meeting note: the FT was then proposed in Dec. 2009*).

J. Elmirghani will propose a tutorial for GLOBECOM 2010 on “Green Optical Systems and Networks”, by him and Ian White, University of Cambridge, UK. (*Post-meeting note: the tutorial was then proposed in Dec. 2009*).

TAOS will endorse symposia and will propose candidate cochairs for GLOBECOM 2011, namely:

- Symposium on Optical Systems and Networks, proposed cochair Prof. Jong-Dug Shin, Soongsil University, Korea;
- General Symposium on Selected Areas in Communications, track Access Networks and Systems, proposed cochair Xavier Fernando, Ryerson Communications Research Lab, Calgary, Canada;
- General Symposium on Selected Areas in Communications, track Green Optical Systems and Networks, proposed cochair Jaafar M.H. Elmirghani, University of Leeds, UK.

(*Post-meeting note: the above candidates were then proposed in Dec. 2009*).

M. Ma intends to propose a tutorial on Security in WiMAX in a forthcoming conference (ICC/GLOBECOM).

X. Fernando intends to propose a workshop on microwave and photonics in access networks.

## 2.5 TAOS Newsletter

It was pointed out the importance to have a TAOS newsletter, distributed to the TAOS mail list. X. Fernando and M. Ma volunteered to lead this task. They will identify scope, topics and format and will report to TAOS officers for next steps.

## 2.6 TAOS Mailing list

S. Bregni recalled that the TAOS email list and web site are regularly updated by himself.

The TAOS email list currently enrolls more than 1000 members. Bregni enforces a strict policy against spam or other unwanted email messages, to avoid that people feels the need to unsubscribe the list.

Meeting adjourned at 9.30.