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

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1 Participants

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2 Minutes of the Meeting

The meeting of the Transmission, Access and Optical Systems (TAOS) Technical Committee (TC) was held in the Kalorama room, Hilton Hotel, Washington, DC, USA, during the Globecom 2007 Conference, on 27 November 2007 from 8.00 to 9.00.

The chair M. Guizani welcomed the participants and introduced the agenda.

M. Guizani recalled that his term as TAOS chair is expiring at the end of 2007. According to the TAOS P&P document, the current vice-chair S. Bregni and secretary T. El-Bawab are proposed by the TAOS steering committee to step up, thus assuming the positions of chair and vice-chair, respectively. Unfortunately, in the last months a suitable candidate for the position of new secretary was not identified yet. Therefore, the meeting approved the new slate of TAOS officers for the term 2008-2009:

Stefano Bregni, chair
Tarek El-Bawab, vicechair

and postponed the election of the new secretary to the next TAOS meeting, which will be held at ICC2008, Beijing, China. The steering committee will work to identify suitable candidates.

M. Guizani proposed S. Bregni to chair the rest of the meeting.

The minutes of the TAOS meeting at ICC 2007, posted on the TAOS web site at <http://www.comsoc.org/~taos/>, were approved.

S. Bregni updated everybody about TAOS' involvement in major IEEE ComSoc conferences. TAOS endorses symposia in all current ICC and GLOBECOM conferences and cooperates actively to their technical management, by providing TPC members and chairs, as outlined in the following.

- GLOBECOM 2007, Washington, DC, USA, Nov. 2007: TAOS originally proposed two symposia, namely *Optical Communication Systems and Networks*, in cooperation with the CS&R TC, and *Emerging Technologies for Access and Home Networks*, in cooperation with the PLC TC. Those proposals were merged with other ones from other TCs, based on the list of standard symposia recommended by the GITC for all Globecom/ICC conferences starting from 2007. The actual list of GLOBECOM 2007 symposia includes two symposia endorsed by TAOS: *Optical Networks and Systems* (endorsed also by ONTC and CS&R) and *General Symposium on Selected Areas in Communications* (S. Bregni, co-chair), including the track *Power Line Communication* (endorsed also by the PLC TC). S. Bregni noted that this track received less than 15 papers submitted.
- *GLOBECOM 2007 8th International Workshop on Optical Networking Technologies*, Washington, DC, USA, Nov. 2007, organized by T. El-Bawab.
- ICC 2008, Beijing, China: also here, the list of ICC 2008 symposia includes two symposia endorsed by TAOS: *Optical Networks and Systems* (endorsed also by ONTC and the CS&R TC) and *General Symposium on Selected Areas in Communications* (S. Bregni, co-chair), including the track *Power Line Communication* (endorsed also by the PLC TC). S. Bregni noted that this track received only 4 papers submitted. This tiny number of submissions clearly shows that the PLC community focuses its publication effort on its flagship conference ISPLC, which seems to be well enough to receive the whole yearly paper production on this topic. Therefore, it is unlikely that future ICC/GLOBECOM conferences will feature a GS track on PLC.
- GLOBECOM 2008, New Orleans, LA, USA: TAOS endorses the same symposia as in previous conferences, as specified by GITC. T. El-Bawab has been appointed co-chair of the *Optical Networks and Systems* symposium, with F. Neri and R. Dutta, who were nominated by ONTC.
- GLOBECOM 2009, Honolulu, Hawaii, USA: S. Bregni is Symposia Chair, reporting directly to the TPC Chair Mehmet Ulema. In this conference, the TPC chair has increased responsibilities, compared to previous conferences: he supervises activities of the tutorial, workshop, D&D and symposia chairs. The role of the symposia chair is close to the role of the TPC chair in previous conferences: he supervises all symposia, appoints their chairs and steers the paper review and selection process.
- *6th International Conference on Information, Communications and Signal Processing (ICICS 2007)*, Singapore, December 2007: TAOS endorses this conference and provides some TPC members.
- *Fifth International Conference on Wireless and Optical Communications Networks (WOCN 2008)*, Surabaya, East Java Indonesia, May 2008: TAOS endorses this conference and provides some TPC members.
- *2008 REV Conference on Advanced Technologies for Communications (ATC-REV 2008)*, Hanoi, Vietnam, Oct. 2008: TAOS endorses this conference and provides some TPC members.
- *12th International Conference on Optical Networking Design and Modeling (ONDM 2008)*, Vilanova i la Geltrú, Catalonia, Spain, March 2008: TAOS endorses this conference and provides some TPC members.
- *2007 Tyrrhenian International Workshop on Digital Communication (TIWDC 2007)*, Ischia, Italy, Sept. 2007: TAOS endorses this conference and provided some TPC members.

Moreover, it was reported that:

- S. Bregni has been Distinguished Lecturer (DL) of the IEEE ComSoc since 2005. His term has been renewed to 2007-2008. In October 2007, he toured the IEEE ComSoc chapters of Puebla (Mexico), Mexico City, San Salvador, Panama, Cartagena. The DLT report is posted on the IEEE ComSoc web site.
- S. Bregni is voting member of the Globecom/ICC Technical Content (GITC) committee of IEEE ComSoc.
- The TAOS email list and web site are regularly updated.

S. Bregni reported about the latest developments in the GITC. S. Bregni is leading a GITC workgroup with the task to define the standard review form and the standard review process for future ICC/GLOBECOM conferences. The standard review form defined by this WG was approved in the GITC meeting in ICC2007 and has been used in GLOBECOM2007 and ICC2008. The specification of the standard review process has been completed some days before the GLOBECOM2007 GITC meeting and therein approved.

Current and past TAOS officers pointed out that there is a need of support from all members of this TC and encouraged all attendants of the meeting to be proactive and submit new ideas and proposals for workshops, tutorials and other technical activities.

S. Bregni pointed out that, among the various elements that are taken into account by the TC Recertification Committee of the ComSoc in evaluating the actual degree of activity and "liveliness" of TCs, major relevance is given also to the number of IEEE Fellows and DLs nominated by the TC (who are approved subsequently). Therefore, the TAOS members are encouraged to propose strong candidates to these recognitions. Potential candidates should have strong record of accomplishments to maximize their chance of approval.

It was proposed to activate TAOS subcommittees as platforms to organize many of the technical activities of TAOS. The subcommittee structure is not new within ComSoc TCs. For example, the previously known TransAccess TC was organized in sub-committees. Moreover, the TAOS subcommittee on Telephone Instrument Testing (STIT) developed several important IEEE standards, years ago.

S. Kartalopoulos noted that it would be a good idea to set up subcommittees within TAOS, because of the diverse technologies in the access network domain and in order to bring focus to each individual technology (wired, optical, wireless). For example, a wireless-access subcommittee might focus on issues and standards related e.g. to WiMax, WiFi, etc., an optical-access subcommittee might focus on e.g. FTTH, FSO, etc., and a wired-access subcommittee might focus on traditional cable-transmission related issues (e.g., xDSL, etc).

M. Kincaid pointed out the importance of participating to the activities of standard development. He also indicated S. Gorshe as possible reference person to contact, in order to identify what subcommittees of ANSI T1 might be interested in TAOS support in developing interfaces, etc. Moreover, he suggested to contact A. Gelman, Director of Comsoc Standards, for guidance and coordination with IEEE 802.X committees. Once specific standardization tasks to work on will be identified, then it will be possible to form appropriate Working Groups.

At the end of the meeting, all members thanked the expiring chair, Mohsen Guizani, for leading the Committee for two successful years.

Meeting adjourned at 9.00.