

# **INFORMS TECHNICAL SECTION ON TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

## **MINUTES OF PITTSBURGH MEETING**

**11/5/06**

(Minutes taken by Luis Gouveia, Secretary, INFORMS Technical Section on Telecommunications).

The meeting was called to order by S. (Raghav) Raghavan. Present at the meeting were: S. Raghavan, S. Voss, P. Mirchandani, I. Gamvros, N. Keon, J. Kalvenes, R. Jayaraman, T. Matis, I. Guardiola, O. Dengiz, F. Kaefer, N. Stier, R. Johari, K. Ross, S. Chen, D. Shallcross, E. Wasil, B. Golden, Y. Lee, E. Olinick, A. Konak. M: Bartolacci, T. Bektas and L. Gouveia

Section Chair, Raghavan then introduced the new Section officers for the 2006-2008 term. They are chair (S. Raghavan) and new Section Officers (S. Voss – Vice-Chair, E. Olinick – Treasurer, L. Gouveia – Secretary, and the new Members-of-Council, Yongho Lee, Carlos Oliveira and Natarajan Gautam. Prakash Mirchandani Karen Balasaigan and Arie Koster continue as Members-of-Council.

Outgoing Chair, Joakim Kalvenes, was presented a service award for his outstanding contributions, service and leadership to the Section over the past 10 years.

Treasurer's report: Eli Olinick (Treasurer) announced that as of November 2006 the Section has \$33,552.94 which includes a profit of \$3612.28 from the 2006 Telecom Conference.

Raghavan announces that a special issue of contributed papers from the 2006-Telecommunications Section meeting includes 8 papers under review. Eli Olinick and S. Raghavan serve as guest editors of this special issue. Raghav also announced (as indicated by Scott Rogers) that the 2002 and 2004 Boca Raton proceedings are available on-line at Springer's website.

Dissertation Award competition: Raghav invited Prakash Mirchandani up to the podium for award presentations for the best doctoral dissertation in Telecommunications. The winner of the prize was Ramesh Johari from Stanford. Five other honourable mentions were awarded to Tolga Bektas, Nicholas Stier, Kevin Ross, Deepak Rajan and Shekhar Srivastava.

Section Chair, Raghav Raghavan, thanked Abdullah Konak for organizing the Telecommunications Cluster for the INFORMS Pittsburgh meeting. Abdullah Konak and Carlos Oliveira volunteered to organize the Telecommunications cluster for next INFORMS meeting in Seattle.

Raghu invited the area editors for Telecommunications in the two INFORMS Journals, *Operations Research* and *INFORMS Journal of Computing* to say a few words about their respective areas. Anant Balakrishnan (Area Editor for Telecommunications in Operations Research) mentioned that the Telecommunications area typically looks for contributions in three areas: Stochastic Models, Optimization, and Economic Models. All of the papers in the Telecommunications area are reviewed in terms of their relevance and applicability to Telecommunications. The journal has been receiving more submissions over the past year. Bruce Golden, editor-in-chief *Networks*, said that *Networks* has experienced a similar rise in submissions. Prakash Mirchandani (Area Editor for Telecommunications and E-Commerce at INFORMS *Journal of Computing*) indicated that the scope of the area in JOC is a bit broader as it includes both Telecommunications and E-Commerce. There is likely to be a vacancy for an associate editor for this area. He indicated that if the members in the audience had good names to suggest to kindly let him know.

Anant Balakrishnan raised the question of journals and asked whether *Telecommunications Systems* was the official journal of the Section. To which Raghu and the rest of the leadership responded that the section has not adopted any specific journal as its own.

Stefan Voss also mentioned that in the past there had been some issues with the turnaround time at *Telecommunications Systems*. Namely, the turnaround times for the 1998 and 2000 Boca Raton Conference proceedings did have a rather long turnaround time. On the other hand, when the Section leadership decided to switch to an edited book with Kluwer for the 2002 and 2004 conferences, the turnaround times to produce the conference volume became much shorter.

9<sup>th</sup> INFORMS Telecommunications Conference: Raghavan announced the 9<sup>th</sup> INFORMS Telecommunications Meeting would be held in March 2008 at the University of Maryland. Dates have not been finalized, but might tentatively be held between March 19 and 21. The meeting will be co-chaired by Bruce Golden, Ed Wasil and S. Raghavan. The three of them had successfully put together the 9<sup>th</sup> INFORMS Computing Society Conference in January 2005. Raghu also indicated that the Advisory board for the meeting includes Stefan Voss, Eli Olinick, Joakim Kalvenes, Luis Gouveia and Anand Anandalingam. Additional nominations to the advisory board are most welcome.

Announcements from the floor:

Stefan Voss brought to the attention of the members a new EURO prize called the EURO Excellence in Practice Award. He is on the jury for this award, and encouraged members to submit papers for this award.

Mike Bartolacci brought to the attention of the members the 6th Annual Wireless Telecommunications Symposium, to be held April 26-28, 2007 at Cal Poly. The INFORMS Telecommunications Section is one of the sponsors of this conference, and all members are invited to participate in this conference.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:15pm.