IEEE Information Theory Society Board of Governors Meeting
October 13, 2009, Taormina, Italy

Muriel Medard and Aria Nosratinia

Attendees: Andrea Goldsmith, Dave Forney, Muriel Medard, Dan Costello, Gerhard

reduction of publication delay involves both cultural and administrative challenges in our society.

scriptions, mostly by university libraries at approximately $1,000 per institution, is in doubt (example: MIT and UC Berkeley). We expect that IEEE Explore revenue sharing may be decreased by $120K starting next year.

We effectively subsidize member print transactions, costing us $70K. Reduction in this subsidy some years ago was intended to phase out subsidies eventually. For long term stability we need to increase transactions revenue (reducing sub-to-pub should help), maybe also increase surplus in conference fees, membership dues, sponsorship for IT schools and the distinguished lecturer program.

5. The Constitution and Bylaws Committee report was presented by the Junior Past President Dave Forney. The amendments will be published on the society website. The changes in the bylaws are modest except in prize paper category, as discussed in the President's report. Nominations and Appointments Committee will not appoint any of its members to any committee. For the Awards Committee language, listing of the specific awards was removed and replaced with category of awards. Frank Kschischang and Andrea Goldsmith have revised the prize paper awards to reflect the discussion at the ISIT BoG meeting. All proposed changes were approved by the BoG.

6. The Publications Committee report was presented by the IT Transactions Editor in Chief, Ezio Biglieri. At this time we have 46 associate editors, up from 26 in June 2007. The Editor-in-Chief highlighted the dichotomy of senior vs junior associate editors. Junior editors are more eager and motivated, while senior people often do not even accept the appointment.

The following appointments to associate editor were proposed and approved: Gerard Cohen, Navin Kashyap, Jean-Pierre Tillich, Pascal Vontobel.

Several questions were raised by the editor in chief. Should only tenured individuals be appointed to associate editor? (Noting that several of the recent appointments are not from academia.) The question of loading untenured junior faculty was raised, as well as the potential for unwanted influence, for example getting recommendation letters for tenure from people whose papers they may have handled. There is no hard

special issue, but not necessarily with full overlap. The BoG expressed support of the two special issues and puts the details into the hands of the Editor-in-chief.

Regarding web-based manuscript management: migration of all data from Pareja to

program every year. Given the success of posting the content of the schools on the web, we can consider placing the distinguished lecture materials on the web.

The Padovani lecture by Abbas El Gamal at the North American IT School was very successful. The 2010 Annual North American School of Information Theory will be held at USC. In 2011, it will be held in the Houston area.

Taipei won the Chapter of the year. The chapter lunch at ISIT was successful and the contact list from all the chapters has been updated.

This year a 1/2-year membership was included with registration at ISIT. It is recommended that a process will be put in place so that the ISIT organizers and Membership Committee will interact for a smooth implementation of the 1/2-year membership incentive.

10. The Fellows Committee Report was presented by Dan Costello. The size of the committee has been increased from 5 to 6. Two new members will be needed. The IEEE introduced an all-electronic nomination system this year. The system allows any Fellow in the Society to be an evaluator for a nominee. The evaluation was done internally, but there is the possibility to send out the reviews to a larger field of people. We have 5 more nominations this year compared with the past years.

11. The Student Committee report was presented by Gerhard Kramer. The second annual School of IT was held in August at Northwestern University with 140 students, a 40% increase in student attendance over the last year. Videos of the lectures are available on the IT Society website. Local organizers were Dongning Guo and Randall Berry, applications and program was handled by Daniela Tuninetti and Natasha Devroye, and the website by Matthieu Bloch. Many thanks to the local volunteers.

Lectures by Dan Costello on Coding Theory, Bruce Hajek on Networks, Abbas El Gamal (Padovani lecture), and Bob Gallager (keynote lecture).

Financial support was provided by the IT society, DARPA, NSF, Northwestern University, USC, Notre Dame and Padovani Lecture.

Students had poster sessions in the afternoons. The school provided breakfast, co ee breaks, snacks, lunch, wireless LAN, and dorm rooms fully paid for all students.

to help encourage interaction. Todd Coleman agreed to take over the mentor/mentee events. The BoG expresses its appreciation for the care he has devoted to his work on behalf of the Society during his five years as o cer.

13. The meeting was adjourned.