

IEEE Information Theory Society Board of Governors Meeting  
Pacifico Conference Center, Yokohama, Japan, June 29, 2003 10:00 AM

Mehul Motani

- Lizhong Zheng and David N. C. Tse, "Communication on the Grassmann manifold: A geometric approach to the noncoherent multiple-antenna channel", IEEE Trans. Info. Theory, vol. IT-48, pp. 359 - 383, February 2002.

- Vladimir I. Levenshtein, "Efficient Reconstruction of Sequences," IEEE Transactions on Information Theory, vol. 47, no. 1, pp. 2-22, Jan. 2001.

- S. Verdu, "Spectral efficiency in the wideband regime," IEEE Transactions on Information Theory, special issue in memory of A. Wyner, on "Shannon theory: perspective, trends and applications", vol. 48, no. 6, pp. 1319-1343, June 2002.

According to the bylaws, the Board shall vote for the nominees by ballot, conducted by the Society President or designee, at the first Board Meeting following June 1st of the award year. The President informed the Board that several member of the Board could not attend the meeting due to visa problems. The Board voted unanimously to delay the vote and conduct an email ballot by August 1.

→**Action Item** The Board voted unanimously to revisit the Bylaws with respect to voting for the IT Paper Award at the BOG meeting.

5. The membership report was presented by Steven McLaughlin. He reported that the Society membership has dropped by 10% since last year (at the same time of the year). Since IEEE has seen a similar drop in its membership, it was suggested that this is the reason for the Society's drop. Steven also reported that the Society was participating in an IEEE wide questionnaire dealing with some membership issues.

Steven also noted that the Society chapter luncheon would be held on Thursday and invited any interested Board members to attend.

→**Action Item** The Board requested that Steven report more details on the 10% drop in Society membership at the next Board meeting. Steven reported that there were 100 ISIT attendees who were not IT Society members and suggested contacting them regarding membership.

→**Action Item** The Board requested that Steven, in cooperation with Michelle Eros, present a proposal at the next meeting addressing membership issues including ideas and suggestion for increasing Society membership.

6. The treasurer's report prepared by Marc Fossorier was distributed and discussed. The net worth (defined as total assets - deferred income) of the Society was \$541K.

→**Action Item** It was noted that the finance figures for 2003 were not available from IEEE. The Board requested that Marc report the finances to the Board when the detailed figures are available.

7. There was nothing to report with respect to the IT Society Newsletter.

8. There was nothing to report with respect to the IT Society Website.

9. Matters related to Symposia and Workshops

- (a) The President reported on a request by IEEE-SA section to financially co-sponsor ISIT 2005 to be held in Adelaide, Australia. The Board voted unanimously not to accept financial co-sponsorship.



12. A report on the Transactions on Information Theory was distributed by Paul Siegel, the Editor-in-Chief.

It was reported that the Transactions continue to have no backlog and this policy would be lifted only in certain circumstances

The Board approved the following editorial appointments:

Communications - Babak Hassibi (CalTech) , new position, effective August 1, 2003.

Coding Techniques - Oyvind Ytrehus (University of Bergen), new position, effective July 1, 2003.

Coding Techniques - Marc Fossorier (University of Hawaii at Manoa), replacing Rudiger Urbanke, effective October 1, 2003.

Coding Theory - Gilles Zemor (ENST), replacing Jorn Justesen, effective August 1, 2003.

Coding Theory - Bob McEliece (CalTech), replacing Ralf Koetter, effective September 1, 2003.

The issue of time to publication was discussed and a report, showing the average number of weeks from submission to publication for regular papers and correspondence articles published in issues of the Transactions from July 1998 to the present, was distributed.

With respect to the time to publication, the role of the associate editors (AE) was discussed. It was noted that promptness of the AE in handling papers was critical and that AE are currently sent reminders. It was also agreed that the Editor-in-Chief have the authority to remove an AE if necessary.

Electronic publishing issues were discussed and a report comparing electronic publishing software products, including ScholarOne's Manuscript Central was distributed.

The Board approved an ad-hoc committee to look at publication issues, including improved notifications and acknowledgements to authors who have submitted manuscripts for publication. The committee members include Paul Siegel, Ralf Koetter, John Anderson, Tony Ephremides, and Alex Vardy.

→**Action Item** The Board requested that the ad-hoc committee looking at publications issues write a detailed task description and report at the next meeting in October.

13. Ivan Fair discussed the report of the education subcommittee. The President noted that members should lend their full support to the efforts of the education subcommittee. He suggested that anyone with input should email Ivan with their comments.

→**Action Item** The Board requested that the Education committee present a more detailed report on their activities at the next meeting in October.

14. Joachim Hagenauer reported on the nominations for the Board. Six outgoing members have agreed to re-run. Six others have already been nominated. In addition, Alex Barg was nominated. The Board closed and unanimously approved these nominations for the Board.

The Board unanimously approved and closed the following nominations:

Two nominations for 2nd Vice-president - Dave Neuho and Bixio Rimoldi.

One nomination for 1st Vice-president - Steven McLaughlin

One nomination for President - Hideki Imai

15. The floor was then opened up for all other business.

Chris Heegard raised an issue concerning the NSF that could have both good and