

IEEE ComSoc BoG and India

Neelesh B. Mehta

Member-at-Large, BoG, IEEE ComSoc

(Director of Conference Publications in 2012-13)

Senior Member, IEEE

Aim of Presentation

- BoG overview
- India-specific challenges

[Note: This is my personal view. Not an official view from BoG or ComSoc.]

Board of Governors: General Comments

Membership of the IEEE Communications Society is represented on the Board of Governors.

- All members of the society are eligible for elected and appointed offices.
- A Nominating Committee selects candidates for elections.
 - Can enter as petition candidate if there is sufficient support

More details at: <http://www.comsoc.org/about/bog/officers>

Overview of Board

- President (Sergio Benedetto)
- President-Elect (Harvey Freeman)

Vice Presidents (Elected Officers)

- VP - Conferences (Hikmet Sari)
- VP - Member Relations (Stefano Bregni)
- VP - Publications (Sarah Kate Wilson)
- VP - Standards Activities (Robert Fish)
- VP - Technical Activities (Khaled Letaief)

Elected to serve a 2 year term

Members-at-Large

- Class of 2015
 - Nirwan Ansari, Hans-Martin Foisel, Neelesh Mehta, David Michelson
- Class of 2016
 - Sonia Aissa, Xuemin (Sherman) Shen, Hsiao-Hwa Chen, Nei Kato
- Class of 2017
 - Gerhard Fettweis, Araceli Garcia Gomez, Steve Gorshe, James Hong

Now: 1 from AP region, 1 from EMEA, 2 from Americas

Elected to serve 3 year term.

4 retire every year. Can vote.

Directors (Appointed Officers)

- Treasurer (Stan Moyer)
- Chief Information Officer (CIO) (Stefano Galli)
- Director - Journals (Len Cimini)
- Director - Magazines (Steve Gorshe)
- Director - Conference Development (Nelson Fonseca) [ICPC contact]
- Director - Conference Operations (Tarek El-Bawab)
- Director - Conference Publications (Chengshan Xiao)
- Director - Education & Training (Michele Zorzi)
- Director - Online Content (Elena Neira)
- Director - Marketing & Industry Relations (Ashutosh Dutta)
- Director - Membership Programs Development (Koichi Asatani)
- Director - Standards Development (Mehmet Ulema)

[Several other Directors not mentioned here due to lack of space]

Regional Representation

- Director - Asia/Pacific Region (Wanjiun Liao)
- Director - Europe, Middle-East & Africa Region (Hanna Bogucka)
- Director - Latin America Region (Pedro Aguilera)
- Director - North America Region (Merrily Hartmann)

ComSoc Staff

- Executive Director (Susan Brooks)
- Several staff who plan and execute ComSoc activities
 - ComSoc has staff in India now (Munir Mohamed)

BoG Meetings

- Always meet twice a year at ICC and Globecom
- Set direction and make decisions for ComSoc
- Some example tasks:
 - Review of activities by various VPs, online content, etc.
 - New/emerging directions, new journals
 - Staffing
 - Finances
 - Industry interactions
 - Any motions put forth to update by-laws, policies and procedures
 - E.g., Based on members' concerns
- And: Yearly OpCom meetings and 1 Management Retreat
 - Subset of BoG attends these

Other Avenues to Influence BoG

- Technical committees (TCs)
- Several boards that meet during Globecom/ICC and by telecons
- Examples (I am involved in):
 - Education and training board (Michele Zorzi)
 - Member and industry relations board (Ashutosh Dutta)

Challenges Facing us in India

Example: 2014 IEEE Elections Voting Statistics

[Paraphrased version of recent email dated 25/12/2014]

- Barry Shoop voted in as the 2015 President-Elect.
- Kukjin Chun voted in as 2015-2016 R10 Director-Elect.
- R10 returned ballot: 17.1%. IEEE returned ballot: 14.7%
- 3 Sections with highest voting percentage amongst 57 Sections in R10. (Award: US\$500, \$300 and \$200)
 - 1st Highest Voting percentage: Seoul Section (55.8%)
 - 2nd Highest Voting percentage: Kwangju Section (39.1%)
 - 3rd Highest Voting percentage: Changwon Section (39.0%)

Challenges – 1/3

- + Second largest membership base! (5000+ members)
- + Enthusiastic, dedicated volunteers in some chapters
- + Growing industry

- Need for more active member participation
 - Voting [See example]
 - Increase chapter activity and member engagement

Voicing India-specific concerns matters

- Example: Annual membership dues raised from \$28 to \$30

Challenges – 2/3

- Lack of international and domestic ComSoc conferences in India
 - Can we together set up a bid for a Tier II/ Tier I ComSoc conference?
 - Tier II: WCNC/PIMRC
 - Tier 1: Globecom/ICC
 - Requires:
 - 4-5 years lead time
 - India-specific ComSoc conference?

Challenges – 3/3

- Education and training
 - Make a local DLT program for India?
 - Does WCET work for us?
 - ComSoc courses and training modules for India?
- Industry participation and outreach
 - How to make industry buy into and drive ComSoc vision?
- Insufficient visibility: Lack of nominations from India for IEEE Fellowship and ComSoc and related awards
- Improve technical quality and output
 - Participation in technical committees
 - Standardization activities
 - Thanks to Dr. Rajesh Ingale for emphasising this in his talk today

India-Specific ComSoc Conference Proposal?

- Combine 3 pillars of Indian academia and industry
 1. Communications
 2. Standards
 3. Software
- Does not compete with existing technical conferences such as ANTS, NCC, SPCOM, and COMSNETS
- Different and complementary forum with unique focus for the many professional and student members in India
- Important goal: Attract industry

Next BoG Elections In August 2015

- MAL candidates from our region
 - Vivek S. Deshpande
 - Neelesh B. Mehta
 - Qian Zhang