

## IEEE SPS SPCOM Technical Committee Meeting

ICASSP, Rhodes, June 7, 2023

### Meeting minutes

**In-person attending TC members:** Waheed Bajwa (Chair), Osvaldo Simeone (Past Chair), Mark Eisen, Elvin Isufi, Ya-Feng Liu, Roula Nassif, Nir Shlezinger, Antti Tulli

**Remotely attending TC members:** Veronica Belmega, Junil Choi, Domenico Ciuonzo, Deniz Gunduz, Nuria González Prelcic, An Liu, David Morales, Hugo Tullberg, Jun Zhang

**In-person attending non-members:** Ahmet Elbir, Georgios Giannakis, Joakim Jalden, Geert Leus, Hua Qian, Zhi Tian

Minutes written by Osvaldo Simeone

- Waheed Bajwa discussed the state of the TC.
  - He summarized the state of the TC membership, including a description of the three categories (Advisory, Associate, and Affiliate members). He announced that there is now a cap on the number of advisory members, requiring some rules to be put in place to address this limitation. He reported that feedback was provided during the TC review meeting that Region 8 is over-represented, while Region 10 is under-represented in the TC membership with respect to the average of the IEEE.
  - Waheed then reported on the ICASSP statistics in terms of number of accepted papers, which is at the level of ICASSP 2019; and on the SPAWC statistics, which have continued to decrease in terms of attendance.
  - He reported on several successes in terms of awards in several categories, including the Claude-Shannon-Harry Nyquist award (Nicholas Sidiropoulos), the Donald G. Fink award (“Tensor Decomposition for Signal Processing”), Best Paper Award (“Stability Properties of Graph Neural Networks”), Distinguished Lecturer (Gesualdo Scutari), and Distinguished Industry Speaker (Jakob Hoydis).
  - He provided a summary of upcoming deadlines. He also discussed the fact that the rebuttal process will be removed for the next ICASSP.
- Zhi Tian presented an update about SPAWC 2023, which will be held in Shanghai. Papers are currently being reviewed, and acceptance notices will be sent shortly. Numbers of accepted papers are expected to be in line with the past two years. Geert Leus invited members to complete their reviews.
- Luca Sanguinetti provided an update on SPAWC 2024, including organizing committee, location, venue, suggested dates (July 2-5, 2024 are preferable because of ISIT 2024 being held in the period July 8-12, although concerns have been raised about the heat; May 28-31, 2024 are also an option), tentative program (there is a proposal to involve other IEEE societies or EU projects), accommodation prices, budget, and the idea of possibly running a school alongside SPAWC.
- Osvaldo Simeone mentioned that there are currently no proposals for SPAWC 2025, and invited members to suggest ideas.
- Waheed Bajwa and Osvaldo Simeone started a discussion on SPAWC. It is suggested that the name be changed to reflect the role of machine learning and artificial intelligence. Osvaldo

Someone proposed to “repurpose” the A in the name to spell the name as Signal Processing and Artificial intelligence for Wireless Communications. He also proposed to involve other societies such as the IEEE Circuits and Systems Society (CAS). Waheed Bajwa proposed to work with other TCs in order to jointly organize workshops, combining SAM and SPAWC.

- Domenico Ciunzo provided a summary about new initiatives of the Special Issues and Special Sessions subcommittee.
- Nuria González Prelcic provided suggestions to promote activities related to the scope of the TC within the New Initiative subcommittee. Ideas include creating short expert tutorial talks, encouraging researchers to use more relevant models encompassing aspects from other disciplines such as sensing, radar, computing, and organizing workshops with discussion sessions and not presentations.
- Jun Zhang provided updates on the Nominations & Elections subcommittee, Mark Eisen on the Industry & Government subcommittee, and Roula Nassif on the Website subcommittee. Specifically, Jun and Mark mentioned that they submitted AE nominations for TMC (Jun) and nominated DIS (Mark).
- Updates on the Synthetic Aperture TWG were presented through Dr. Ahmet Elbir.