IEEE Multimedia Communications Technical Committee (MMTC) Newsletter

May 2015-No.2

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ICCC STC: Selected Topics in Communications

Symposium Co-Chairs

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The goal of the Selected Topics in Communications Symposium is to explore the latest research trends in communications. The symposium aims to present high-quality research results in diversified areas at the frontiers of communication theory, signal processing, coding, and system designs and implementation. The selected topics of this year are listed below.

- Communications in E-health
- Millimeter Wave Communication Systems and Applications
- Space Communications
- Green Communications
- Wireless Communication Powered by Energy Harvesting
- Wireless Power Transfer
- Mobile Cloud Computing
- Mobile Crowdsensing
- Wireless Communications in Social Networking

Submission Guidelines

Prospective authors are invited to submit original technical papers by the deadline of 1 June 2015 for publication in the IEEE/CIC ICCC 2015 Conference Proceedings and for presentation at the conference. Submissions will be accepted through EDAS. All submissions must be written in English and be at most six (6) printed pages in length, including figures. For full details, please visit the following website:

http://www.ieee-iccc.org/submguide.html

Call for papers

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IEEE MASS 2015 Workshop on Content-Centric Networks

Dallas, TX, USA,

19th October 2015

http://www.eng.auburn.edu/~szm0001/ccn2015/index.html

Scope

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With the exponential growth of content in recent years (e.g., videos) and the availability of the same content at multiple locations (e.g., same video being hosted at Youtube, Dailymotion), users are interested in fetching a particular content and not where that content is hosted. Also, the ever-increasing numbers of mobile devices that lack fixed addresses call for a more flexible network architecture that directly incorporates in-network caching, mobility and multipath routing, to ease congestion in core networks and deliver content efficiently. By treating content as first-class citizen, Content-Centric Networking (CCN) aims to evolve the current Internet from a host-to-host communication based architecture to a content-oriented one where named objects are retrieved in a reliable, secure and efficient manner. CCN has been under active exploration over the past few years, resulting in both clean-slate and overlay architectures and solutions. This workshop will provide researchers and practitioners to meet and discuss the latest developments in this field. The outcomes of this workshop include 1) investigating and understanding some of the challenges in CCN; 2) fostering collaboration among researchers interested in CCN.

In recent years, rapid progress has been made in CCN; multiple initial architectural designs sharing common goals of in-network caching, mobility support and multipath routing have been proposed and prototypes have been implemented. Challenges related to caching and routing of content has received attention. Research areas focusing on what content to cache, how to route for content have been explored, but areas such as security, privacy and economic models for CCN have received limited attention.

The goal of this workshop is to bring together researchers from academia and industry and investigate the architectural issues and challenges in CCN. We invite submissions describing new research contributions including but not limited to the following topics.

- Content-oriented routing protocols

- Content naming

- Scalability issues in CCN

- CCN Architecture design and evaluation

- Security issues in CCN

- Privacy in CCN

- Content centric wireless networks

- Mobility management

- Evaluation of in-network caching techniques

- Limits and limitations of CCN architectures

- Economics and business models

- CCN specific transport protocols

- Specific implementations of CCN architectures

Important Dates

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Paper submission: July 1, 2015

Paper Acceptance: July. 27, 2015

Camera-ready paper: Aug 1, 2015

Submission Guidelines

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Please follow the author instructions at

http://www.eng.auburn.edu/~szm0001/ccn2015/index.html

All workshop papers will be included in the IEEE Proceedings.

Steering Committee

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Jim Kurose, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, USA

http://www-net.cs.umass.edu/personnel/kurose.html

Workshop Organizers

==========

Anand Seetharam

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California State University Monterey Bay, USA

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http://itcdland.csumb.edu/~aseetharam/index.htm

Shiwen Mao

Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering

Auburn University, USA

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http://www.eng.auburn.edu/~szm0001/

ICCC 2015 WCS: Wireless Communications Systems

Co-Chairs:

- Jianwei Huang, The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong, jwhuang[at]ie.cuhk.edu.hk
- Matthew Andrews, Bell Laboratories, Alcatel-Lucent, USA, andrews[at]research.bell-labs.com
- Lingjie Duan, Singapore University of Technology and Design, Singapore, lingjie_duan[at]sutd.edu.sg

Scope and Topics of Interest

The ICCC 2015 Wireless Communications Systems (WCS) Symposium covers all topics relating to wireless communications, such as antennas and channels, channel estimation, synchronization, interference suppression, signal processing, MAC protocols, link?layer procedures, resource allocation, and cross?layer optimizations of the PHY/MAC/link layer. Advanced and emerging topics such as massive MIMO, millimeter wave communications, cooperative and cognitive communications, green communications, D2D communications, M2M communications, and TV white space communications will also be covered.

The topics under WCS include but are not limited to:

- Wireless Communications Theory
- Channel Modeling, Characterization, and Estimation
- Interference Mitigation and Power Control
- Synchronization and Equalization Techniques
- Space?Time Coding, MIMO, Adaptive Antennas
- Ultra?Wideband Communications
- Millimeter Wave Communications
- Physical Layer Network Coding
- Wireless Signal Processing
- Satellite Communications
- Cognitive Radio Communications
- Wireless Localization
- Mobile and Wireless IP
- Wireless Capacity, Throughput, Outage, Coverage
- Multihop and cooperative communications
- Wireless Networks
- Wireless Resource Management and Performance Optimization
- Energy?Efficient and Green Wireless Communications
- Cooperative Communications
- Device-to-Device and Machine-to-Machine Communications
- Wireless Crowd-Sensing Systems
- Heterogeneous Wireless Networks Involving Cellular and Wi-Fi Integrations
- Wireless Network Virtualization
- Small Cell Communications

- Economic and Game Theoretical Analysis of Wireless Systems
- TV White Space Communications
- User Centric Communications
- Experimental evaluation of networked communication systems

Submission Guidelines

Prospective authors are invited to submit original technical papers by the deadline of **1 June 2015** for publication in the IEEE/CIC ICCC 2015 Conference Proceedings and for presentation at the conference. Submissions will be accepted through EDAS. All submissions must be written in English and be at most six (6) printed pages in length, including figures. For full details, please visit the following website:

http://www.ieee-iccc.org/submguide.html

IEEE CLOUDCOM 2015

The Seventh IEEE International Conference on
Cloud Computing Technology & Science
http://2015.cloudcom.org/

Vancouver, BC, Canada
November 30-December 3, 2015

** Paper submission deadline: June 15 **

CALL FOR PAPERS

The IEEE International Conference on Cloud Computing Technology & Science 2015 will be the 7th in the series of conferences, steered by the Cloud Computing Association, that brings together researchers, developers and users interested in cloud computing systems to present and discuss the needs of, and innovations in, the area. The conference this year solicits research articles in various areas including, but not limited to:

Architecture
* Intercloud architecture models
* Cloud federation & hybrid cloud infrastructure
* Cloud services delivery models, campus integration & "last mile" issues
* Networking technologies
* Programming models & systems/tools
* Cloud system design with FPGAs, GPUs, APUs
* Storage & file systems
* Scalability & performance
* Resource provisioning, monitoring, management & maintenance
* Operational, economic & business models
* Green data centers
* Dynamic resource provisioning

Virtualization
* Computational resources, storage & network virtualization
* Resource monitoring
* Virtual desktops
* Resilience, fault tolerance, disaster recovery
* Modeling & performance evaluation
* Disaster recovery
* Energy efficiency

Services & Applications
* Cloud services models & frameworks
* Cloud services reference models & standardization
* Cloud-powered services design
* Business processes, compliance & certification
* Data management applications & services
* Application workflows & scheduling
* Application benchmarks & use cases
* Cloud-based services & protocols
* Fault-tolerance & availability of cloud services and applications
* Application development and debugging tools
* Business models & economics of cloud services

IoT & Mobile in the Cloud
* IoT cloud architectures & models
* Cloud-based dynamic composition of IoT
* Cloud-based context-aware IoT
* Mobile cloud architectures & models
* Green mobile cloud computing
* Resource management in mobile cloud environments
* Cloud support for mobility-aware networking protocols
* Multimedia applications in mobile cloud environments
* Cloud-based mobile networks and applications

Big Data
* Machine learning
* Data mining
* Approximate & scalable statistical methods
* Graph algorithms
* Querying & search
* Data lifecycle management
* Frameworks, tools & their composition
* Dataflow management & scheduling

HPC in the Cloud
* Load balancing
* Middleware solutions
* Scalable scheduling
* HPC as a Service
* Programming models
* Use cases & experience reports
* Cloud deployment systems

Security & Privacy
* Accountability & audit
* Authentication & authorization
* Cloud integrity
* Cryptography for & in the cloud
* Hypervisor security
* Identity management & security as a service
* Prevention of data loss or leakage
* Secure, interoperable identity management
* Trust & credential management
* Trusted computing
* Usable security

Important Dates
* Workshop Proposals: April 17
* Tutorial Proposals: May 15
* Paper Submissions: June 15
* PhD Consortium Paper Submissions: July 15
* Notifications: August 15
* Camera-ready: September 15

Organizers

General Chairs
* Victor C.M. Leung
* Albert Y. Zomaya

Steering Committee
* Chunming Rong
* Martin Gilje Jaatun
* Albert Y. Zomaya
* Stephen L. Diamond

Program Chairs
* Bingsheng He
* Sathish Gopalakrishnan

Workshops & Tutorials
* Henry Chan
* Abdallah Shami

Panel Discussions
* Rodger Lea

Posters & Demos
* Hui-huang Hsu
* F. Richard Yu

PhD Forum
* Yan Bai
* Lin Li

J-SAC SI Call for Papers

Special issue on Video Distribution over Future Internet

Sponsoring TC: IEEE ComSoc MMTC

http://www.comsoc.org/jsac

The current Internet is under tremendous pressure due to the exponential growth in bandwidth demand, fueled by the transfer of video consumption to online distribution, IPTV, streaming services such as Netflix, and from phone networks to videoconferencing and Skype-like video communications. The Internet has also democratized the creation, distribution and sharing of user-generated video contents through services such as YouTube, Vimeo or Hulu. The situation is further aggravated by the emerging trends of adopting higher definition video streams, requesting more and more bandwidth. Indeed, the Cisco Visual Networking Index (VNI) projects that video consumption will amount to 90% of the global consumer traffic by 2017. Another shift predicted by Cisco VNI is that most data communications will be wireless by 2018.

To cope with the bandwidth growth, the shift to wireless, and to solve other related issues (e.g., naming, security, etc) with the current Internet, new architectures for the future Internet have been proposed and prototyped. Examples include Content-Centric Networks (CCN) or Named Data Networking (NDN), or some content-based extensions to Software-Defined Networking (SDN), among others. None of these emerging architectures deals specifically with video distribution, as they need to support a wider range of services, but all would have to support videos in an efficient manner. Therefore, the study of video distribution over the future Internet is of primary importance: how well does future Internet architecture facilitate video delivery? What kind of video distribution mechanisms need to be created to run on the future Internet? How will video be supported in the wireless portion of the future Internet? Can the current video distribution mechanisms (such as end-to-end dynamic rate adaptation schemes) be used or even enhanced for the future Internet? What are subjective/objective metrics for performance measurement? How to provide real-time guarantees for live and interactive video streams?

While the topic is quite wide, we will narrow the focus of this special issue on the fundamental problems of video distribution and delivery in the future Internet. We invite submissions of high-quality original technical and survey papers, which have not been published previously, on video distribution in the future Internet, including the following non-exhaustive list of topics. Please note that all topics must be understood in the context of the future Internet as outlined above.

- Network-assisted video distribution, network support for multimedia, specifically supporting wireless environments
- New information-centric and software-defined architectures to support wired and wireless video streaming
- Resource allocation for wired and wireless video distribution
- Media streaming, distribution, and storage support in the future Internet
- In-network caching/storage, named data retrieval, publish/subscribe for video distribution in wired and wireless networks
- Next generation Content Delivery Networks (CDN)
- Adaptive streaming and rate adaptation for video streaming in the future Internet for wired and wireless networks
- Peer-to-peer aspects of video multimedia distribution, including scaling and capacity
- QoS/QoE measurement and support for video distribution in the future Internet
- User-generated content and social networks for multi-media
- Video compression techniques explicitly supporting the future Internet
- Big-Data mechanisms (say referral engines or content placement algorithms) for video content over future Internet
- Social-aware video content distribution over future Internet
- Integration of video distribution and multimedia computing over future Internet
- Testbeds and measurements of video distribution over future Internet
- Cost and economic models for video distribution over future Internet
- Theoretical foundations for video distribution over future Internet, e.g., network coding, information theory, machine learning, etc

Special Issue Editors

Prof. Cedric Westphal, Huawei Innovations & UCSC, USA
Prof. Tommaso Melodia, Northeastern University, Boston, MA, USA
Prof. Christian Timmerer, Alpen-Adria-Universität Klagenfurt, Austria
Prof. Wenwu Zhu, Tsinghua University, Beijing, China

Important Dates

Paper Submission due: 05/29/2015
First review complete: 09/15/2015
Acceptance Notification: 11/15/2015
Camera-ready version: 12/15/2015
Publication date: Second Quarter 2016

Manuscript submissions and reviewing process: All submissions must be original work that has not been published or submitted elsewhere. For submission format, please follow IEEE JSAC guidelines (http://www.comsoc.org/jsac/paper-submission-guidelines). Each paper will go through a two-round rigorous reviewing process by at least three leading experts in related areas. Papers should be submitted through EDAS (https://edas.info/newPaper.php?c=19291).

CALL FOR PAPERS

IEEE TRANSACTIONS ON CIRCUITS AND SYSTEMS FOR VIDEO TECHNOLOGY

Special Issue on Visual Computing in the Cloud: Mobile Computing

Part of Visual Computing in the Cloud Special Issue Series

Recent advances in smartphones and wireless technologies are fuelling a new wave of user demands for rich mobile experiences. Mobile users not only expect a broadband connection wherever they go and interact with each other via social networks on the go, but also demand ubiquitous access to a wealth of video contents and services. However, this trend is seriously hindered by the fact that onboard resources with mobile devices are inherently limited and its growth rate falls behind that of their desktop counterparts. Fortunately, the emerging cloud computing paradigm offers a natural solution to extend the desktop visual experience to mobile devices. In fact, it is essential for the seemingly unlimited cloud to provide computational and storage support for many media-rich applications with both front-end and back-end functionalities. At the same time, the synergy between image/video and cloud computing requires novel solutions to address many technical challenges arising in this exciting space. For example, the fundamental tension between resource-hungry video applications and power-limited mobile devices has yet to be resolved, and is complicated by operating mobile devices as access points. Effort for providing a universal rich video experience across many screens is typically limited by the heterogeneity amongst ever-evolving mobile devices, as manifested in their different physical form factors, middleware platforms, and interactive features, and rapidly-changing networking technologies (e.g., WiFi, WiMesh, 3G/4G/5G, LTE, SDN, NDN). This challenge is further aggravated by business concerns from different service providers (e.g.,Telcos, MSOs and ISPs), as well as security concerns from users and content providers. In the back-end, video processing, distribution, adaptation and analytics need to be revisited under this new paradigm, to best serve the mobile clients with good QoS/QoE at a low cost. These daunting technological challenges are better tackled by an interdisciplinary approach and draw insights from both academic research and industrial development. In this issue, we invite novel, innovative original research and extensive review articles that study the state-of-the-art interactions among advanced mobile video technologies, cloud computing, mobility and social network.

Potential **topics** of interest include, but are not limited to:

- Enhanced QoE/QoS for mobile video with cloud support
- Mobile video content delivery in the cloud
- Video search on mobile devices with cloud support
- Distributed caching for mobile cloud video
- Mobile video processing in the cloud

- Media cloud resource management for video applications
- Metadata management for mobile video applications
- Mobile video analytics in the cloud
- Context-aware mobile video over the cloud (e.g., location, user, etc)
- Video adaptation for mobile cloud
- Location-based mobile video services
- User-centric video adaptation in the cloud
- Interactive video rendering for mobile devices
- Service-oriented video management
- Cloud-based mobile video system and applications
- Security and privacy for mobile cloud video
- Mobile video networking in the cloud
- Mobility management for cloud video
- Mobile cloud video over future Internet (e.g., SDN, NDN)
- Synthesis between mobile video and social networking with cloud support
- Cost optimization (e.g., energy, monetary cost, etc) in mobile cloud video
- Video/image editing/authoring on mobile devices with cloud support

Important Dates

Initial Paper Submission:	July 15, 2015
Initial Paper Decision:	September 15, 2015
Revised Paper Submission:	October 15, 2015
Revised Paper Decision:	December 15, 2015
Final Paper Submission:	January 15, 2016
Final Paper Decision:	March 1, 2016
Publication Date:	June 2016

Manuscript submissions and reviewing process

Submission of a paper to CSVT is permitted only if the paper has not been submitted, accepted,

published, or copyrighted in another journal. Papers that have been published in conference and workshop

proceedings may be submitted for consideration to CSVT provided that (i) the authors cite their earlier

work; (ii) the papers are not identical; and (iii) the journal publication includes novel elements (e.g., more

comprehensive experiments). For submission information, please consult the IEEE CSVT Information for

Authors: http://tcsvt.polito.it/authors.html.

Guest Editors

Yonggang Wen	Nanyang Technological University, Singapore
Pascal Frossard	EPFL, Switzerland
Qibin Sun	Cisco Systems Inc., USA (IEEE Fellow)
Wenjun Zeng	University of Missouri, USA (IEEE Fellow)
Jacob Chakareski	University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL, USA
Di Wu	Sun Yat-Sen University, China

Research Staff Opening in Hong Kong on Network Optimization and Economics

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A Research Staff (RA/Postdoc) position is available in The Network Communications and Economics Lab (NCEL) at the Chinese University Hong Kong: http://ncel.ie.cuhk.edu.hk/

The candidate should have
• A long-term career goal in academia
• A strong research interests in network optimization, economics and games, with applications in wireless communications and networking or smart grid
• A recent PhD degree in communications, networking, operations research, or economics
• Strong publication record in top IEEE/ACM/OR/Economics conferences/journals
• Proficiency in written and oral English

An interested candidate should email the CV (including detailed publication record and contact information of three references), research statement (how the candidate's research fits into and possibly expands NCEL's research strengths), and the pdf files of three representative first-author papers to Professor Jianwei Huang (jwhuang [at] ie.cuhk.edu.hk). The initial contract will be 1 year, and is renewable subject to performance evaluation and funding availability. The position will be open until it is filled.

About NCEL:

NCEL has a world leading reputation in the interdisciplinary research area of network economics and games, with most publications in top venues such as ToN/JSAC/TMC/TWC/INFOCOM/Mobihoc/WiOpt. The current research focuses include spectrum database economics, smart data pricing, mobile data offloading, user-provided networking, wireless crowd-sourcing, and smart grid economics. For more details, see http://ncel.ie.cuhk.edu.hk/current-research. During the past several years, NCEL members received 8 Best Paper Awards from leading international journal and conferences, including the 2011 IEEE Marconi Prize Paper Award in Wireless Communications. Recent NCEL alumni became faculty members in Singapore, Macau, and China. For recent NCEL highlights, see http://jianwei.ie.cuhk.edu.hk/NCELOverview.pdf.

About CUHK:

Founded in 1963, The Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK) is a forward-looking comprehensive research university with a global vision and a mission to combine tradition with modernity, and to bring together China and the West. CUHK has been continuously the top Hong Kong institution in the Academic Ranking of World Universities (ARWU), which is based on awards and research output, including those league tables in 2006, 2010, 2011, and most recently 2013. CUHK also possesses the largest and one of the most beautiful campus of all higher education institutions in Hong Kong:

http://www.cpr.cuhk.edu.hk/cutv/detail/513?lang=en.

MULTIMEDIA COMMUNICATIONS TECHNICAL COMMITTEE
IEEE COMMUNICATIONS SOCIETY
http://committees.comsoc.org/mmc

R-LETTER

Vol. 6, No. 2, April 2015

IEEE COMMUNICATIONS SOCIETY

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Message from the Review Board Directors

Welcome to the April 2015 issue of the Review Letter (R-Letter) of the IEEE Communications Society Multimedia Communications Technical Committee (MMTC). This issue is brought to you by review board members who independently nominated research papers published within IEEE MMTC sponsored publications and conferences.

We hope that this issue **stimulates your research in the area of multimedia communication** featuring topics:

- smart and helmet cameras;
- adaptive video streaming in managed networks;
- mobility-aware resource allocation, screen content coding; and
- image representation.

An overview of all reviews are provided in the following:

The **first paper**, published in the *IEEE Transactions on Circuits and Systems for Video Technology* and *edited by Pradeep K. Atrey*, provides means for reducing the costs of re-identification for smart camera networks.

The **second paper**, published in the *ACM Transactions on Graphics (TOG) - Proceedings of ACM SIGGRAPH 2014* and *edited by Frank Hartung*, describes a method for video smoothing of rough and shaky helmet camera video recordings.

The **third paper** is *edited by Roger Zimmermann* and has been published within the *IEEE Transactions on Multimedia*. It provides means for quality optimization of adaptive HTTP streaming within managed networks.

The **forth paper**, published in the *Proceedings of the IEEE GLOBECOM 2014* and *edited by Koichi Adachi*, comprises a mobility-aware resource allocation scheme under channel uncertainty.

The **fifth paper**, published in the *IEEE Transactions on Multimedia* and *edited by Bruno Macchiavello*, proposes an indexed color representation for screen content coding using HEVC.

Finally, the **sixth paper** is *edited by Jun Zhou* and published in *IEEE Transactions on Circuits and Systems for Video Technology*. It describes a marriage between conventional image representation and deep neural networks.

We would like to thank all the authors, nominators, reviewers, editors, and others who contribute to the release of this issue.

IEEE ComSoc MMTC R-Letter

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MULTIMEDIA COMMUNICATIONS TECHNICAL COMMITTEE
IEEE COMMUNICATIONS SOCIETY
http://www.comsoc.org/~mmc

E-LETTER

Vol. 10, No. 2, March 2015

IEEE COMMUNICATIONS SOCIETY

CONTENTS

Message from MMTC Chair

Howdy MMTC colleagues,

Welcome to the March 2015 issue of MMTC E-Letter! As the past E-Letter Director, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the past MMTC officers, my co-Directors Drs. Periklis Chatzimisios and Guosen Yue, the MMTC editors, the Interest Groups (IG), and the E-Letter authors for their guidance, cooperation and support in the past two years. Our fruitful collaboration resulted in 12 E-Letter issues with 23 special issues on timely topics.

It is a great honour and pleasure to serve as vice Chair—Letters & Member Communications for the term of 2014 ~ 2016. I am really excited about continuing my involvement with MMTC, one of the most vibrant technical committees of IEEE ComSoc. I will certainly strive to work with the MMTC officers, the E-Letter, R-Letter and Membership boards, the IGs, and MMTC members to better serve the MMTC community and to continue the past success of MMTC.

I would also like to take this opportunity to provide an update of the E-Letter, R-Letter and Membership boards. Last fall, ten E-Letter Editors, including Drs. Florin Ciucu, Markus Fiedler, Michelle X. Gong, Cheng-Hsin Hsu, Zhu Liu, Konstantinos Samdanis, Joerg Widmer, Yik Chung Wu, Weiyi Zhang, and Yan Zhang, and two R-Letter Editors, including Drs. Gene Cheung and Guillaume Lavoué, retired after two years of excellent service. We thank them for their contributions to the two letters. Each retired editors received a Certificate of Appreciation from IEEE ComSoc as a token of our appreciation for their hard work.

It is my great pleasure to introduce to you the new E-Letter and R-Letter Board leaders for the term of 2014 ~ 2016:

- E-Letter Director: Dr. Periklis Chatzimisios (Alexander Technological Educational Institute of Thessaloniki, Greece)
- E-Letter Co-Director: Dr. Guosen Yue (Broadcom, USA)
- E-Letter Co-Director: Dr. Honggang Wang (University of Massachusetts Dartmouth, USA)

- R-Letter Director, Dr. Christian Timmerer (Klagenfurt University Austria)
- R-Letter Co-director, Dr. Weiyi Zhang (AT&T Labs Research, USA)
- R-Letter Co-director, Dr. Yan Zhang (Simula Research Laboratory, Norway)

The lists of new E-Letter and R-Letter editors can be found at the MMTC website. The new E-Letter and R-Letter teams have been working hard on timely publication of the letter issues. Since last September, they have successfully published three E-Letter issues (with six special issues) and four R-Letter issues. It is fortunate to have such a distinguished team and I believe that these two important MMTC publications are in good hands!

In 2013, MMTC established the MMTC Excellent Editor Awards to recognize the outstanding contributions of E-Letter and R-Letter editors. For Year 2014, the MMTC Excellent Editor Awards awardees are:

- Dr. Florin Ciucu, University of Warwick, UK, E-Letter Editor
- Dr. Jun Zhou, Griffith University, Australia, R-Letter Editor

Please join me to congratulate Drs. Ciucu and Zhou for this well-deserved recognition and thank them for their hard work and contributions.

In addition to having two top-notch boards, we also explore other new initiatives to enhance the quality and impact of both letters. While serving on the steering committee of IEEE International Conference on Multimedia & Expo (ICME), Dr. Yonggang Wen and I are working with the ICME Steering Committee Chair, Dr. Jin Li, on fostering cooperation. Starting from ICME 2015, the E-Letter board will work with the ICME panel chairs to publish position papers that summarize the panel theme and discussions; the R-Letter board will participate in the evaluation of a small set of best paper/best paper candidates identified by the ICME TPC team, and review the ICME 2015 best papers in R-Letter. We are considering extend such collaboration to other MMTC sponsored conferences in the future.

With Dr. Yonggang Wen's help, we also started the talk with several major multimedia journals about possible cooperation. As a starting point, we have achieved agreements with the E-i-Cs of IEEE Transactions on Circuits and Systems for Video Technology (CSVT) and IEEE Multimedia, to include the table of contents of their most recent issues in E-Letter. Finally, with help from the Member Service Board, in particular, Dr. Dalei Wu, we have set up Google Analytics accounts for the E-Letter/R-Letter websites, which can provide monthly reports on download statistics of the letters. This would be helpful for assessing the impact of the letters.

It is also my great pleasure to introduce to you the new Membership Board leaders for the term of 2014 ~ 2016:

- Director: Dr. Zhu Liu (AT&T Labs Research, USA)
- Co-Director: Dr. Lifeng Sun (Tsinghua University, China)
- Co-Director: Dr. Laura Galluccio (University of Catania, Italy)

In my opinion, the Membership board is probably the most important component of MMTC. It is crucial for the success of MMTC to attract active researchers, developers and students in the multimedia area to become a member and get involved in MMTC activities. With help from Drs. Yonggang Wen and Lifeng Sun, we are working on cooperation with China Computer Federation (CCF), a most influential computer related professional organization in China. Recently, we have 59 new members from CCF joined MMTC, thus bringing the number of active MMTC members to over one thousand. Let's congratulate the Membership Board for a good job done!

I hope you enjoy reading this E-Letter issue, and strongly encourage you find the IG of interest to get involved and to contribute to future letter special issues. If you have any suggestions or comments on improving the E-Letter, R-Letter and Membership boards, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Shiwen Mao
Vice Chair—Letters & Member Communications
Multimedia Communications Technical Committee, IEEE ComSoc