

Technical Committee on Information Infrastructure (TCII)
Minutes from the meeting at Globecom 2007
Washington D.C., United States, November 27, 2007.

27 November, 14:00.

The following meeting agenda was proposed and accepted.

- Welcome/Introduction
- Approval of last-meeting minutes
- Report on conferences (GIIS'07)
- Web site and mailing list
- Election of new officers (2008-2009)
- Next conferences (GIIS'08)
- Other Business
- Closing

1. Opening and introduction

Raouf welcomed attendees and opened meeting.

2. Introduction

All participants introduced themselves. The list of the attendees is given below:

- Nizar Bouabdallah, INRIA (France), nbouabda@inria.fr
- Rami Langar, University of Waterloo, (Canada), rlangar@uwaterloo.ca
- C. K. Toh, Hong Kong University (China), ckt@eee.hku.hk
- Guy Omidyar, IEEE Member (U.S.A.), guy.omidyar@ieee.org
- Mehmet Ulema, Manhattan College (USA), mehmet.ulema@manhattan.edu
- Robert Walp, GCI – Alaska (U.S.A.), r.walp@ieee.org
- Brendan Jennings, WIT (Ireland), bjennings@tssg.org
- Nazim Agoulmine, University of Evry (France), nazim.agoulmine@univ-evry.fr

- Marcus Brunner, NEC Europe (Germany), brunner@netlab.nec.de
- Tarik Taleb, Tohoku University, (Japan), taleb@aiet.ecei.tohokama.ac.jp
- Raja Jurdak, UCD (Ireland), rjurdak@ieee.org
- Hamid Nafaa, UCD (Ireland), nafaa@ieee.org
- James Hong, POSTECH (Korea), jwkhong@postech.ac.kr
- Raouf Boutaba, University of Waterloo, (Canada), (Chair, preparing these minutes) rboutaba@cs.uwaterloo.ca
- Yacine Ghamri Doudane, ENSIIE – University of Evry, (France), (Secretary, preparing these minutes) ghamri@ensiie.fr

3. Approval of last meeting minutes

The minutes of the last meeting was presented by Raouf and approved by all the participants.

4. Report on conferences

The Technical Committee organised last July the 1st Global Information Infrastructure Symposium – GIIS'07 (Technically co-Sponsored by IEEE ComSoc and published through IEEE Xplore).

Raouf invited Nazim Agoulmine (GIIS'07 TPC co-chair) to comment about GIIS'07: The event, which was held in Marrakech - Morocco, was very successful with a good number of high quality submission that led an acceptance ratio bellow 30%. GIIS'07 was a 3-day single track symposium. Two workshops and two tutorials were co-localized with it. The Two workshops were:

- the 1st Seamless Service MObility (SSMO) Workshop
- the 1st International Workshop on ITS for Ubiquitous ROADS (UBIROADS)

Bob Walp congratulates the organizers about the huge work done for the organization of GIIS'07 and making it a big success scientifically and local organisation.

5. Website and Milling List

The Website and mailing list are currently hosted by José Marcos Nogueira (The current TC Vice Chair). He is hosting them since he was the past Secretary of the TC. These are in general hosted by the TC Secretary.

6. Election of New Officers

The election committee is composed by: Mehmet Ulema (TCII Past Chair) and Marcus Brunner. There is one nominated candidate per-position:

- Raouf Boutaba had been invited by many members to continue for another term as TCII Chair. So, he is nominated for the “Chair” position.
- Robert (Bob) Walp is nominated for the “Vice Chair” position.
- Yacine Ghamri-Doudane is nominated for the “Secretary” position.

All the members approve the nominations (unanimously and enthusiastically).

7. Next conferences

After the big success of GIIS’07, a discussion on the next GIIS event took place among the meeting participants. In addition to the date and location, expanding the symposium structure is also discussed.

Date and location:

Tarik Taleb pointed out the fact that GIIS’07 was close to ICC’07 in terms of date and location (it was the week after and not too far) was a good thing for some participants and it should be good to try to make that again.

Raouf presented the current proposals that the GIIS Steering Committee received: India and Dubai. Due to the weather conditions, the suggestion is to make it in October or November rather than July. The time between both events (GIIS’07 and GIIS’08) will be around 18 months then instead of a year. It will happen nearest to GC rather than ICC.

Mehmet Ulema pointed out that Perou has also a strong interest on organising GIIS.

Structure:

One objective (Bob) should be to promote a GAP (Global Access Plan) without political frontiers. This should be one of the targets of GIIS under the flagship of IEEE. The idea is to promote the development. Last GIIS was more technical (Raouf) than handling legal/policy/political aspects. One idea could be to have two tracks, one related to technical aspects and the other to legal/policy/political aspects, with two different TPC chairs and committees.

Another important target that should be maintained is “how to eliminate the Digital Divide?” (Mehmet). A position paper wrote by Bob and Mehmet for GIIS’07 discuss this. An example is Perou with only 50% fixed phone penetration and 30 to 35% of mobile phone penetration. Examples of technical solutions taking into account the Digital Divide are DTN (Delay Tolerant Networks) and WWW for data access in underserved areas.

There is a need of sustainability in that area. A business behind this exists. 900 millions people leaving in rural India constitutes a viable economy, for instance.

One role of TCII could be to give bottom-up advices to higher IEEE boards.

8. Other Business

The past chair (Mehmet Ulema), the elected officers and the members present at the meeting pointed out the very good job made by the past officers: José Marcos Nogueira (TCII Vice Chair)

and Guenter Schaefer (TCII Secretary). Their services were highly appreciated by TCII members. We all thank them a lot for that.

9. Closing

The meeting was adjourned at 15:00 PM