

INFORMS TECHNICAL SECTION ON TELECOMMUNICATIONS MINUTES OF WASHINGTON D.C. MEETING

10/12/08

(Minutes taken by Mauricio Resende, Secretary, INFORMS Technical Section on Telecommunications).

The meeting was called to order by S. Voss. Present at the meeting were: S. Raghavan (University of Maryland), Stefan Voss (University of Hamburg), Bruce Golden (University of Maryland), Abdullah Konak (Penn State University), Tim Matis (Texas Tech University), Stanko Dimitrov (University of Michigan), Aaron Phillips (Texas Tech University), Binod Maharjan (Texas Tech University), Ivan Guardiola (Texas Tech University), Luis Gouveia (University of Lisbon), Larry Leblanc (Vanderbilt University), Eli Olinick (Southern Methodist University), Ivana Ljubic (University of Vienna), Dohoon Kim (Kyung Hee University), Gunnar Klau (Centrum Wiskunde & Informatica), Anant Balakrishnan (University of Texas), Bernard Fortz (Université Libre de Bruxelles), J. Cole Smith (University of Florida), Jun Xu (Penn State University), and Mauricio Resende (AT&T Labs Research).

The chair made welcoming remarks and the minutes from the Seattle meeting were approved. The current officers were introduced. They are: S. Raghavan (past chair), S. Voss (chair), E. Olinick (vice-chair/chair elect), L. Gouveia (treasurer), and M. Resende (secretary). The members of council were then introduced. They are: N. Gautam, A. Konak, Y. Lee, B. Fortz, B. Jaumard, and J. Cole Smith. A question was raised as to the role of the members of council. They are to vote on issues outside of the regular business meetings and to insure that officers are carrying out their roles satisfactorily as well as be ambassadors for the section.

There was agreement that the newsletter and website are outdated and need rejuvenation. Suggestions were made that the newsletter should be distributed more often and that it should contain announcements about new positions as well as telecommunication information and news that might be of interest to the members.

It was observed that the room given to the Section by INFORMS was rather small and that a larger room should be requested for the next business meeting.

The chair next presented the Treasurer's Report for 2007. The audited retained earnings statement showed a balance of \$34,003.73 on 01/01/07, a meeting deficit of \$59.31 on 12/31/07 and a net revenue of \$2048.74 on 12/31/07, resulting in an ending balance on \$35,993.16 on 12/31/07. There were deferred dues of \$30 for 2009 and of \$800 for 2008. For 2nd quarter 2008, the unaudited retained earnings statement showed a meeting surplus of \$6292.21 on 06/30/08 and a net revenue of \$875.00 on 6/30/08 resulting in a balance of \$43,160.37 on 06/30/08. There was \$65 in deferred dues.

A question about the number of members was raised. In contrast to the mid and late 90's when there were approximately 500 members, the membership is now way below those numbers.

A question was raised about what to do with the money. Several suggestions were made: more food for the business meetings (there was less food than last year), create some new awards, advertising, best presentation award, spend more on telecommunication conference (B. Golden), create an annual prize for best paper in area (S. Raghavan), a junior-level award for young researchers with less than 6 years since getting the PhD (J. Cole Smith). There could be sessions dedicated to the awards in the telecommunications conference. Given the lengthy review processes for papers in journals such an award would be valuable since winning such an award would validate a young researcher's work.

The chair went on the list some recent activities. He highlighted the successful 2008 College Park telecommunications conference, the 2008 sponsored sessions organized by H. Uster and T. Matis, the 2009 sponsored sessions for the San Diego meeting for which Jun Xu volunteered to help Tim Matis with, and the 2010 telecommunications conference which Brigitte Jaumard has proposed be held in Montréal. The chair also suggested that a proceedings or special journal issue connected to the telecommunications conference might be a good idea.

With respect to the proposed Montréal meeting, Brigitte Jaumard has listed potential organizers and has said that by organizing the meeting through the university would reduce costs. Furthermore, several hotels are walking distance from the university. She believes registration fees will be \$375 for members, \$400 for non-members, and \$200 for students. The proposed paper submission deadline would be July 30, 2009 and the meeting would be held in May 2010, perhaps co-located with OON10 and Optimization Days (JOPT). J. Cole Smith said we should watch out for IE conferences that are also held in May. Brigitte is enthusiastic about organizing the conference in Montréal and expects 80-90% academics to attend, lots from Europe. The proposal was approved by majority. Someone suggested that Brigitte try to get university rates for the hotels.

Following the chair's presentation, Anant Balakrishnan presented the awards for the 2008 INFORMS Doctoral Dissertation Prize. The committee consisted of Anant Balakrishnan, Bob Doverspike, Luis Gouveia, and Gautam Natarajan. Honorable Mention went to Adam Wierman for the thesis titled "Scheduling for today's computer systems: Bridging theory and practice." The prize was awarded to Andreas Bley for the thesis "Routing and capacity optimization for IP networks" and Johan van Leeuwen for the thesis "Queueing models for cable access networks."