

**INFORMS TECHNICAL SECTION ON TELECOMMUNICATION  
MINUTES OF CHARLOTTE MEETING  
NOVEMBER 13, 2011**

Minutes taken by Eli Olinick, Chair, INFORMS Technical Section on Telecommunications

Meeting called by the Chair Eli Olinick (Southern Methodist University)

Present at the meeting: Luis Gouveia (University of Lisboa), Stefan Voss (University of Hamburg), Larry Leblanc (Vanderbilt University), Anant Balakrishnan (University of Texas), S. Raghavan (University of Maryland), Abdullah Konak (Penn State University), Michael Bartolacci (Penn State University), Ivan Guardiola (Missouri University of Science and Technology), Soumyo Moitra (Carnegie Mellon University), Ioannis Papapanagiotou (North Carolina State University), Arie Koster (RWTH Aachen University), Manuel Kutschka (RWTH Aachen University), Brian Schaefer (Missouri University of Science and Technology), Lee Ferchoff (Bell Canada), Frank Sauer (Missouri University of Science and Technology)

**Sponsored Cluster**

The chair thanked Abdullah Konak and Ivan Guardiola for organizing the cluster. Ivan Guardiola agreed to organize the cluster for the 2012 INFORMS meeting in Phoenix (October 14-17) with Tim Matis. It was suggested that the Section may want to organize a cluster for the 2012 INFORMS International meeting in Beijing (June 24-27); anyone interested doing this should contact Eli Olinick ([olinick@smu.edu](mailto:olinick@smu.edu)). It was also noted that INFORMS encourages sessions that are jointly sponsored by multiple societies, and so any member of the Telecommunications Section who organizes a session for another society (e.g., Computing or Optimization) is strongly encouraged to have that session cross-listed with our cluster if the topic is appropriate.

**Treasurer's Report (updated by 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Report)**

For the three months ending on March 31, 2011, the unaudited retained earnings statement shows an ending balance of \$44,317.47. During that period The Section received \$865 in dues revenue and incurred a \$15 meeting expense, labor from the INFORMS Meetings department, and a \$5.20 expense passed on from Subdivisions for credit cards fees from membership renewals.

**Website**

The Section's webmaster, Abdullah Konak, has moved the Section's website to the INFORMS Online server. The chair thanked Abdullah for his time and effort on this project and invited Section members visit the site and send feedback, comments for improvement, etc. to him and/or Abdullah ([auk3@psu.edu](mailto:auk3@psu.edu)). The URL for the site is <http://www.informs.org/Community/Telecom> .

**2012 Conference**

- The 11<sup>th</sup> INFORMS Telecommunications will be held March 15-17, 2012, at the Renaissance Boca Raton Hotel, Boca Raton, FL.
- The conference was held at this hotel several times in the past. The hotel has undergone a significant renovation since that time. We have negotiated a rate of \$139/night for the conference, which is very reasonable given that the conference coincides with the Spring Break season.
- The chair thanked Ivana Ljubic for setting up the conference webpage on the

Section's new site. The page is still "under construction", but Section members are encouraged to visit the page for more details about the conference:  
<http://www.informs.org/Community/Conferences/2012-INFORMS-Telecommunications-Conference/>.

- Conference attendees will have the opportunity to submit paper-length versions of their presentations for special issues of *Netnomics* and *International Journal of Mobile Network Design and Innovation (IJMNDI)* edited by Section members Stefan Voß and Mike Bartolacci, respectively.

### **Membership Dues**

The annual dues (\$10 for regular members, \$5 for retirees, \$0 for students, \$20 for non-INFORMS) were discussed. INFORMS would prefer to not see \$0 for any membership category; however it was the general consensus of those present that dues for all categories remain at their current levels. In particular, students are much more likely to join if membership is free and it is important to recruit students to help sustain and grow the Section. It was suggested that the Section contact chairs of appropriate university departments to let them know that their students can join the Section for free (this would also be a good opportunity to promote the Section's Dissertation Award).

### **Distinguished Fellow Award**

A Distinguished Fellow Award was suggested as a way to recognize achievement in the application of OR to Telecommunications, and to raise the visibility of the Section. The general consensus of those present was that it would be worthwhile for the Section to make such an award. However, rather than using it as means to promote the Section it would be better if it came about as a natural result of the Section growing and being more active. The question was raised of what would be required to promote the Section to an INFORMS Society. It turns out that the Section would have to almost double in size to become a society. The Section currently has 273 members; a Society must have at least 500.