INTERCONNECT

I T S

INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS SOCIETY

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT
www.itsworld.org

Message from the Chair

Dear Members,

On February 21st of this year I chaired our ITS Executive Committee meeting, hosted at the Graduate School of Telecomunications (GET Telecom Paris) by Professor Gerard Pogorel, current Chair of the Conference Committee. Glyn Williams, from BT could not join us this time round, for health reasons, and we all wished him a speedy recovery. From this meeting I want to share with you the good news: our ITS success stories.

The ITS annual financial report for 2002 reflects the continued financial stability of our organization, thanks to all of our members; but some efforts in particular contributed more visibly. Financially, as a non-profit association, ITS spreads membership revenues from previous biennial conferences over two years rather than one.

As and both our thirteenth and fourteenth ITS conferences (Buenos Aires 2000, and Seoul 2002) were successful events, we are entering our 2003 fiscal year in sound financial condition. At our meeting we thanked Nakil Sung's coordination efforts, along with our other remarkably efficient Korean ITS colleagues and each and every one of our Global Sponsor organizations for their lasting contribution to our Society.

I didn't express it at the meeting, but we should also thank the Patron Saint of the ITS books, Lee Schmidt, our elected Treasurer, for his devoted monitoring and free-of-charge bookkeeping. Lee, after serving many years as the Vice President of GTE, has learned a lot about our

ITS Regional Conference Aims to Build Partnerships

The ITS Asia-Australian Regional Conference will be held in Perth, Western Australia, June 22-24, 2003. The theme of the conference is M-business, E-commerce and the Impact of Broadband on Regional Development and Business Prospects.

It will focus on 3G mobile technology and applications, e-commerce, information technology, development and the Internet with particular emphasis on the impact, risks, barriers and opportunities to business and national economies in Asia and Australia.

The conference, which is expected to attract delegates from several countries, will feature contributions from prestigious keynote speakers from major international business, government and academic institutions.

business but not the accounting ways of Enron and its auditors. Even after a transcontinental change in residences and two computer crashes, Lee always checks the cheques, and has never shredded any ITS paper, at least not yet!

Other success stories include our journal, *Communications & Strategies*, and our ITS regional conferences, such as those in China and Madrid, and the upcoming conferences in Perth and Helsinki. These bring ITS closer to your home and elevate ITS' reputation for timely analysis and open debate in areas of academic, regulatory, economic, social and commercial interest.

Our regional events have attracted high-profile participants from widely diverse regions of the world (if only all these participants would also join us as ITS members... imagine how much stronger we would be. Toward this end, although ITS only accepts membership fees in U.S. dollars we now have credit card payment capabilities.)

Looking ahead, you should all have received by now the Call for Papers for the Perth Conference to be held June 22-24, 2003. In this regard I have received a very positive letter from Bruno Lanvin of the World Bank's infoDev program officially endorsing the ITS conference and commending our objectives "to provide an informed and open forum for identifying challenges and providing timely solutions". Congratulations on the efforts by Gary Madden and his team in organizing what promises to be an outstanding conference.

I was pleased to note among the Perth speakers newly elected Board members Lucy Firth, whose

work was presented in Seoul, as well as Andrea Kavanaugh, whose work on Africa was of great interest to those in our Nominations Committee.

Development will also be a theme of the 2004 Biennial Conference in Colorado. I invite sponsors and other supporters to get in touch with Jim Alleman on that front.

Two months after the Perth conference we meet for the ITS Annual Board meeting and ITS European regional conference in Helsinki. All ITS Global Corporate members can benefit from attending the ITS regional conferences and workshops free of charge. As for the rest of us from non-profit organizations, the best things in life are also, sometimes, free. In this connection our most grateful thanks to an ITS member, Professor Gene Mesher of the University of California, who has generously given of his time and effort (along with Professor Stanford Levin, and our secretariat Suzanne Neil) to provide all ITS members with a List-serve service which may not look as exciting as the latest California movie, but which went live on the screen near you as of February 24th. We see this as an important member benefit, promising to support from the bottom-up the ability of the entire ITS community to communicate and share timely and non-intrusive information of relevance (books, conferences, job offers).

With all this good news, the bad news (the risks and challenges facing telecoms in the years ahead) will just have to wait for my next column.

Loretta Anania
ITS Chair

It will be hosted by Communication Economics & Electronic Markets Research Centre (CEEM), Curtin University of Technology and Australian Expert Group in Industry Studies (AEGIS), University of Western Sydney. The conference's target audience includes business leaders, entrepreneurs, and professionals from government and academia, especially individuals and institutions wishing to facilitate research partnerships with business. Accordingly, the conference will offer both business and academic tracks.

Conference Chairs are Gary Madden (CEEM) - Professor, Curtin University of Technology and Russel Cooper (AEGIS) - Professor, University of Western Sydney.

Conference delegates are eligible to receive a registration discount if payment is received prior to May 22, 2003. Full-time students enrolled at post-secondary institutions are eligible for student registration, and are also invited to submit entries for a prize for the best student submission.

Delegates are encouraged to register on-line by going to *http://www.cbs.curtin.edu.au/ research/ITS_Conference/index.cfm*

Registration includes a welcome cocktail party, buffet lunches, refreshments, and a special conference volume to be published by Physica-Verlag.

Of course, delegates can also take part in optional social and cultural events. Western Australia is renowned for its brilliant blue skies, warm sunny climate and white sandy beaches. It is a land of natural phenomena including the dolphins of Monkey Mia, the 350-million-year-old Bungle-Bungle range and the towering karri forests of the South West.

Perth, the state capital, is a beautiful modern city located in the south west of Australia on the Indian Ocean. It has great weather, a fantastic coastline and easy access to the wineries of the Swan Valley. Abundant entertainment, cultural stimulation and culinary wonders await the those fortunate enough to attend.

Conference Tracks

Track 1: Business Studies, Forecasts, Pricing and Market Analysis
- Bandwidth Pricing
- VOIP Business Models
- Calculating Future Business Risk
- Demand Analysis and Penetration Forecasts
- Fixed and Mobile Wireless Substitution
- Geographic Projections of Wireless Demand
- New and Rapidly Changing Product Lines
- Broadband-Internet User Studies

Track II: Applications, Content and Product Developments
- Broadband at Home and the Office
- Distance Learning
- New Internet Applications
- Monitoring Product and Service Developments
- Telecommunications and Mass Media
- Content Drivers of Network Growth
- Virtual Market Place

Track III: Business Strategy, Technology and Interconnection
- DBS/DTH and the Broadcast/Cable Landscape
- Alternative Broadband Network Architecture
- Next-generation Wireless Technology

- Strategies in the Multimedia Business, Horizontal and Vertical Integration
- Information Highway Convergence and Digital Broadcasting
- M-commerce and Broadband Wireless Service
- ISPs and the Internet Backbone
- Security, B2B and B2C Experiences

Track IV: Policy and Regulation
- Digital Divide and the Broadband Super-Highway
- Digitalized Broadcasting
- Regulatory Environment for E-Commerce
- Spectrum Regulation and 3G Licensing
- Convergence and its Challenge to the Regulatory Framework
- Internet Telephony and its Regulatory Implications
- Electronic Transaction Security and Technology
- National IT Strategy and Policy

Track V: The Development Imperative
- Broadband and Small Countries
- E-Commerce and Socio-economic Development
- Universal Access and Universal Service
- Knowledge Economy and the Digital Divide
- Distance-Learning and Distance-Medicine
- WTO and its Impact on Telecommunications Development
- Sustainable Development of Information Infrastructure
- Community Networks
- Globalization of Mass Media Markets

European Conference Deliberates Communications Rebound

The Institut De l'Audiovisuel et des Télécommunications en Europe (IDATE) successfully concluded its 2002 conference in Montpellier last November, hosting 700 telecom, Internet and audiovisual professionals who focussed on issues surrounding the conditions required for the market's rebound.

IDATE is one of Europe's leading market study and consulting firms, specializing in information and communication technologies. The conference theme was the conditions required for a communications market rebound in Europe.

In his opening remarks, IDATE General Manager, Yves Gassot, stated that Europe has largely been incapable of estalishing itself as a centre for innovation and development in information and communications technologies (ICT), despite its many efforts. In his address to the delegates he said that it is necessary to pinpoint those elements that will allow Europe to "catch up".

Erkki Liikanen, European Commissioner in charge of the Information Society and Enterprises, stressed to the assembly the importance of the measures taken by the European Union, and particularly the Europe 2005 Action Plan, seeking to develop broadband communications and systems security. Liikanen also pointed out the need to renew investments that have suffered from operators' budget cuts.

The demographics of conference attendees from both private and public sectors highlighted the broad interest in European communications issues.

- Service companies and media groups (19%)

- Telecom operators (17%)

- Manufacturers (15%)

- Colleges, universities and consulting firms (14%)

- Government agencies, regulators, regional administrations (14%)

- Financiers (13%)

- Other activities, including the Press (8%)

For over 20 years IDATE's International Conferences have been key assemblies for players involved in the information technology and media sectors. Complete conference transcripts are available on IDATE's website *www.idate.org*.

ITS Asia-Australian Regional Conference
• Perth, Western Australia •
June 22 to 24, 2003
Register on-line at:
http://www.cbs.curtin.edu.au/research/ITS_Conference/index.cfm

ITS Board Member Co-authors New Book

ITS Board member Xu Yan has co-authored a book with Professor Douglas Pitt of the University of Cape Town entitled *Chinese Telecommunications Policy*, presenting a unique review and analysis of the evolution of Chinese telecommunications policy.

It analyses the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats facing new entrants, issues of ownership and interconnection, the broad economic background of 3G licensing, and the significant implications of China's accession to the WTO.

These matters are fully analyzed within the context of the unfolding Chinese regulatory system. *Chinese Telecommunications Policy* demonstrates that the existence of different economic and political systems forces governments to adopt different and unique regulatory approaches. The book reveals the considerable problems remaining to be solved as a result of weaknesses in Chinese telecommunications industrial and regulatory systems.

In-depth discussions in the book with key political and economic figures help the reader better understand the unique characteristics of Chinese telecommunications policies.

Xu Yan is an assistant professor in the Department of Information and Systems Management at Hong Kong University of Science and Technology. He is also an associate member of the Internet and Telecom Association of Hong Kong.

ITS-L Now Available to Members

ITS members now have listserv capability. ITS-L is the official electronic mailing list of the International Telecommunications Society.

Sending a message to everyone on the list is the same as sending e-mail. The listserv address is: *ITS-L@csus.edu*.

"Simply send an e-mail to that address and it will be relayed to everyone on the ITS-L," explained Gene Mesher, ITS-L Listowner.

He and ITS Liaison Officer, Stanford Levin, have been working on making this service available for months. The goal of the list is to facilitate professional communications among ITS members. Types of messages to be sent over ITS-L might include:

- Conference Announcements

- Job Openings

- Publications (such as journal contents and book announcements)

- Research Questions

Basically, the ITS-L uses the LISTPROC program. All LISTPROC commands must be sent in the body (not the subject line) of the message and as plain text (not html) to: LISTPROC@csus.edu

ITS members have now received a welcome to ITS-L message with directions on how to easily sign up and use the service.

However, Stanford Levin cautions that due to the volume of e-mail this generates, the ITS List should not be used as a discussion forum. Neither should it be used for personal communication such as change of contact details or self-promotion (book announcements are an exception).

ITS members are also advised not to send file attachments over the list. Instead, include the URL (Web location) of the file in the body of the message

At the discretion of the ITS Liason Officer or ITS-L Listowner, a subscriber considered to be abusing the list may be either temporarily or permanently removed.

Anyone who did not receive the ITS-L welcome message, or who has a question regarding the appropriateness of a list posting, is welcome to contact the ITS-L Listowner, Gene Mesher at gmesher@csus.edu or the ITS-L Liaison Officer, Stanford Levin at slevin@siue.edu.

ITS members wishing to order a copy of this book will receive a 15 per cent discount by contacting

AH Artech House Books BOSTON · LONDON

Connections

Marketing & PR Committee

The Marketing and PR Committee has been working on the next addition of the ITS brochure. The new brochures will be ready for worldwide distribution later this spring. They will maintain the colorful design of the last brochure, and will focus on the 2004 ITS Biennial Conference to be held at the University of Colorado, Boulder Campus.

Interconnect continues to grow in terms of size and distribution. It began in February 1999 as a four page, one-fold newsletter with a printed distribution of several hundred. Most issues of *Interconnect* are now 6-8 pages in length with a distribution ranging from 1500 to 2200, depending upon demand.

The official website, *www.itsworld.org* also continues to add new features. Perhaps the most important recent change has been the addition of an on-line membership registration and credit card payment capability. Applicants wishing to become ITS members, or to simply renew their membership, can now do so by credit card whether by mail, fax, or directly from the ITS website.

Don Romaniuk, Chair

Membership & Nominations Committee

Since the ITS Board meeting in Seoul last August, the Membership and Nominations Committee has been working to increase individual ITS memberships. Working with the ITS Secretariat, renewal letters have been sent to individual ITS members whose membership has lapsed – for instance, individuals who attended the ITS biennial meeting in Buenos Aires but who did not attend in Seoul and who did not otherwise renew their memberships. In addition, membership letters were sent to individuals who attended other ITS conferences, but who were not ITS members.

In addition to the membership initiatives, the Membership and Nominations Committee has worked to set up a listserv that can be used by ITS members to communicate easily with all other ITS members and other interested individuals. This is an excellent way to promote conferences, to share research results, to post job openings, and generally to keep lines of communication open between ITS members and other professionals, sharing common interests. ITS member Gene Mesher at California State University Sacramento, USA, volunteered to set up and administer the listserv.

Stanford Levin, Chair

Publications Committee

The Publications Committee has coordinated several publication plans since the Seoul conference last summer. From the conference, an edited book of selected papers is being processed and edited (co-editors Erik Bohlin, Stanford Levin, Nakil Sung and Chan-ho Yoon), to be published by Elsevier North Holland Publishers. Co-editors Erik Bohlin, Stanford Levin and Nakil Sung are also preparing a special issue in *Telecommunications Policy*.

Moreover, publication plans are being formed based on the forthcoming conference to be held from June 22 - 24, 2003 in Perth, Australia. Papers submitted for the conference will be considered for a special issue in *Communications & Strategies*, the ITS Membership Journal, provided the papers meet the required quality standards and special issue theme. For more information, see the ITS Perth Conference site *(http://www.cbs.curtin.edu.au/ research/ITS_Conference/).*

Erik Bohlin, Chair

ITS Board Committees

Strategic Planning
Glyn Williams (Chair)
Lorenzo Pupillo, Tom Spacek, Noemi Wachtel, Cristiano Antonelli , Frank Kiss, Hansuk Kim

Conference & Seminars
Hidenori Fuke (Chair)
Fernando Gallardo, Don Lamberton, Georgette Wang, Jae-Cheol Kim, Juergen Mueller, Richard Simnett

Publications
Erik Bohlin (Chair)
Don Lamberton, Nicolas Curien, Glenn Woroch, Alain de Fontenay, Karl-Heinz Neumann

Membership & Nominations
Stanford Levin (Chair)
Dan Furman, David Allen, Jim Alleman, Susan Simon, Fernando Borio, Gerard Pogorel,

Finance
Lee Schmidt (Chair)
Walther Richter, Frank Kiss, Bob Olley, Glyn Williams

Marketing & PR
Bohdan Romaniuk (Chair)
Noemi Wachtel, Stanford Levin, Juergen Mueller , Willie Grieve

The Chair, Vice-Chair and Treasurer are de-facto members of each of these ITS committees and must be informed of any committee activities by the committee chairs.

ITS 2004 Preliminary Call For Papers

The Fifteenth Biennial ITS Conference will take place June 28-30, 2004 in Boulder, Colorado USA. The conference theme will be "The role of information and communications technologies (ICT) on development and productivity."

Specifically, the focus of ITS 2004 will be on the consequences of adopting ICT to further a country's economic growth through improved productivity, efficiency and a more informed citizenry. ITC has been credited with improving the efficiency of business, government and social activities, as well as providing social and cultural benefits to society.

Past ITS Chair, James Alleman, is the Conference Chair. Starting with this issue of Interconnect, he will provide updates on conference preparations, committees, calls for papers, deadlines, program development and proposed social activities.

The conference secretariat is located in the Interdisciplinary Telecommunications Department, School of Engineering and Applied Science at the University of Colorado, email ITS-2004@Colorado.edu and the web site can be found at *http://ITD.Colorado.EDU/ITS_2004/*

ITS 2004 to Focus on ICT / Economic Growth

*Conference Chair
James Alleman*

I am honored that the University of Colorado and Boulder have been selected as the host venues of ITS 2004, and that I will be Conference Chair. "The Role of ICT on Development and Productivity" is an important theme.

The world is rapidly moving toward an economic system based on the continuous and ubiquitous availability of information and communications technology. However, in view of the recent, drastic changes in both the international and country-specific economic environments, as exemplified by the drying up of financial markets and a general decline in economies around the world, a reexamination of the role of the ICT sector in any nation's infrastructure becomes urgent.

An understanding of the relationship between economic development, productivity and improved ICT is important.

The Fifteenth Biennial ITS Conference will address the following:

- What are the elements of a well-structured ICT system?

- What economic benefits does a well-structured ICT system provide (both quantitative and qualitative)?

- How does the adoption of ICT impact economic development and productivity growth?

- What benefits other than economic does a well-structured ICT system provide?

- Have countries/societies allocated sufficient resources to ICT?

- Is an inadequate ICT system a disincentive to new investment? Does it place existing industries at a competitive disadvantage?

A primary objective of this Conference is to define the interaction among ICT efficiency, and economic growth and development.

Date: 28-30 June 2004
e-mail: ITS-2004@Colorado.edu
Location: Boulder, Colorado, USA
web:
http://ITD.Colorado.EDU/ITS_2004/
Deadlines:
January 16, 2004 for abstracts;
March 26, 2004 for papers
Contact:
Conference Secretariat
CB 530
Interdisciplinary Telecommunications
Department
School of Engineering and Applied
Science
University of Colorado
Boulder, CO 80309-0530
USA

James Alleman