A Brief History of the IEEE/ACM Transactions on Networking

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In 1991the IEEE/CS was presented with the opportunity to become a cosponsor of a new transactions on networking. To address this issue Mike Liu, Ray Miller and Harold stone were appointed as the Ad Hoc Committee for the Joint transactions on Networking. Mike was a key member of the Publications Board and Ray was member of the Governing Board at that time and both were active in network research. Harold Stone was Vice Chair of the Publications Board and Chair of its Transactions Committee. Then in 1992 Harold Stone became the Chair of the Publications Board.

The proposal for this new transactions arose from the IEEE Communications Society as a spin-off from their IEEE Transactions on Communications which was receiving numerous submitted papers on networking. ACM SIGCOMM was also active in the networking area and had already agreed, as part of ACM, to become a cosponsor. Thus, if the Computer Society would also agree to become a cosponsor the three cosponsoring groups would be the IEEE Communications Society, the IEEE Computer Society and the ACM Special Interest Group on Communications.

When Mike Liu, Ray Miller and Harold Stone brought this issue to the IEEE/CS Governing Board on June 5,1992 in New Orleans the Board members were generally in favor of the idea of such a transactions but there was a strong faction of the Board that felt that this should be launched solely by the Computer Society. After due discussion, and the fact that this proposal originated from the IEEE Communications Society, the proposal to have this joint transactions passed the Board. A formal agreement was then signed by the delegated staff executives of IEEE and ACM, the two corporate bodies, on July 1, 1992 for the publication of this transactions.

An Inter-Society Steering Committee was the established consisting of three members from each group: Jon Mark, Nick Maxemchuk and Stephen Weinstein of the IEEE Communications Society; Ming T. (Mike) Liu, Ray Miller and Harold Stone of the IEEE Computer Society; and Lyman Chapin, Carol Meyer and Craig Partridge of ACM. Stephen Weinstein became the initial Steering Committee Chairman for 1992/1993 with the Chairmanship designed to rotate every two years amongst the three groups.

Jim Kurose, who had been the EIC of the IEEE Transactions on Communications, became the initial EIC of the IEEE/ACM Transactions on Networking and the initial issue was published in February 1993. By then an Editorial Board of 25 well known people had been established to help lead the technical contents of the journal. Jim Kurose's Editorial and the Editorial from the sponsoring society chairs appeared in the first issue. It is particularly notable to highlight a statement from Kurose's editorial that it is "the first journal to be cosponsored by the IEEE and ACM." From its inception the transactions has been published bimonthly. It grew in size and reputation rapidly and soon became a predominant

journal for networking research papers. As time progressed the EIC, Editorial Board and Steering Committee membership changed, but the Steering Committee has always consisted of three members from each sponsoring group. Mike Liu and Ray Miller continued to serve on the steering committee through 2002 and were subsequently each given a certificate of appreciation for their dedicated service from the three sponsoring societies.