

Report on the TELSIS 2005 Conference

The series of biennial conferences on telecommunications in modern satellite, cable and broadcasting services called "TELSIS" started 12 years ago at the Faculty of Electronic Engineering in Nis, Serbia and Montenegro. The first and second conference gathered mostly domestic authors. Thanks to the advancements in all aspects, including increasing the number and quality of papers, increasing the participation of foreign authors, organizing the additional events, etc., the conference has become an international event since 1997. Another important point is that, from that year on, the conference receives technical sponsorship from IEEE.

This year's conference, TELSIS 2005, was the 7th in series. It was held from 28 to 30 September 2005 in Nis, Serbia & Montenegro. As earlier, it was organized by the Faculty of Electronic Engineering under the technical co-sponsorship of the IEEE MTT-Society, Communications Society, AP-Society and IEEE Region 8, and in cooperation with IEEE Section, MTT Chapter and Communications Chapter of Serbia and Montenegro. The conference was also supported by Serbian Academy of Science and Art, Academy of Engineering Science of Serbia and Montenegro, Ministry of Science and Environmental Protection, Ministry of Capital Investment and many domestic societies.

Around 190 papers were submitted to the conference, covering a wide range of topics: Mobile communications, Classical cable and optical communications, Multimedia communications, Antennas and propagation, RF and microwave technique, Electromagnetic compatibility, Digital signal processing, Broadband wireless access, Telecommunication networks, Modulation and coding, Internet technologies, etc. Each paper within the contributed papers category was reviewed by at least three members of International Review Board. Finally, the conference program comprised 135 papers, of which 15 were invited ones. The total number of authors is 312 and they come from nearly 30 different countries over all 5 continents: Australia, Bulgaria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Canada, China, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, Germany, Ghana, Greece, India, Italy, Libya, Macedonia, Poland, Romania, Russia, Serbia and Montenegro, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Sweden, Thailand, Turkey, Ukraine, the United Kingdom and the USA.

All accepted contributed and invited papers were published prior to the conference. The proceedings, composed of two books and accompanied with a CD-ROM publication, were distributed to all registered participants. It is important to note that the Conference Proceedings will be distributed as an IEEE publication (*Book Broker Post-conference Distribution Program*) for the fourth time. All conference papers will be available on IEEEExplore web site, as well as in IEE INSPEC database.

TELSIS 2005 started on Wednesday, September 28, with an Opening Ceremony. Prof. Bratislav Milovanovic, chairman of the conference, gave a welcome to the conference participants. A welcome address was also given by Prof. Jan Zehentner from Czech Technical University in Prague, IEEE Region 8 MTT-S Chapter Coordinator.

A plenary session was arranged after the Opening Ceremony. Prof. Jan Zehentner presented a plenary keynote address on the theme of planar transmission lines in MW and MMW circuits.

During the three conference days, the papers were arranged in 12 parallel sessions with oral presentation and 6 poster sessions. Most of parallel sessions included one or more invited papers at the beginning. The sessions were well visited enabling many useful contacts and discussions.

In addition, the technical program included two workshops. The first workshop was related to the Advances in Mobile Communication Technologies. Prof. Branko Kolundzija from University of Belgrade, Serbia and Montenegro gave a lecture called: "3D Electromagnetic Modeling of Composite Metallic and Dielectric Structures".

Next speaker was Prof. Liljana Gavrilovska from University of Ss. Cyril and Methodius, Skopje, FYR of Macedonia, with a lecture entitled "Cross-Layer Optimizations in Wireless Ad Hoc Networks. Finally, Prof. Yiannis Vardaxoglou from the Loughborough University, United Kingdom, spoke on the subject: "Recent Advances on EBG and AMC Surfaces with Applications in Terminal and High Gain Antennas". The second workshop, held in Serbian, was oriented to actual topics in Broadband Wireless Communications. One round table on the subject: "New Surroundings for Development of Telecommunications in Serbia - New Telecommunication Technologies, a Challenge for Introduction of Law Regulations" was organized as well.

The Conference was rich in additional events. Several commercial presentations were performed by leading international and domestic telecommunication companies. Presentations of several journals in the related fields, edited in Serbia, took place on the first day of the conference. An exhibition of photographs and publications from previous TELSIS conferences was arranged. A YU CABLE Society meeting was organized as well. In addition, a meeting of members of non-government organization "Equal Opportunities" and members of IEEE Women in Engineering Chapter was held.

The social program was rich as always. A Welcome Cocktail with live music was arranged after the plenary invited talk in the hall of the faculty building. A nice musical performance was organized for all participants at the Symphony orchestra hall in the evening of the first day. The performers included a famous musical group and several soloists together with the University choir. A special dinner with live music was organized for all invited authors in the old University building after that. In the afternoon of the second day, a guided sightseeing tour was organized for conference participants. The attendees were able to see the city of Nis, whose history is longer than two millennia. They visited several interesting archaeological sites from Roman and Turkish time, as well as the modern part of the city. In the evening of the second day, a reception at the Mayor of Nis was arranged. After that, a conference banquet in one of the best restaurants in the city was held. The participants and guests enjoyed a fine national cuisine, good beverages and exclusive live music including folk songs and dances.

Since TELSIS 2005 gathered many people that work in the field of telecommunications, it was a good opportunity for many contacts. Conference attendees emphasized that the professional part of the conference has left very good impressions. TELSIS conference has been evaluated as a leading scientific conference in the field of modern telecommunication technologies in Southeastern Europe. In addition, the participants have emphasized that they enjoyed a very pleasant atmosphere and outstanding hospitality during the conference.

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Opening Ceremony; from left: Bratislav Milovanović (Conference Chairman), Jan Zehentner, Aleksandar Marinković, Liljana Gavrilovska, Ilija Stojanović and Wolfgang Mathis

Yiannis Vardaxoglou from the Loughborough University, United Kingdom, is speaking at the workshop