

Welcome Message from the Technical Program Committee Chair



Luiz DaSilva

On behalf of the Technical Program Committee, it is our great pleasure to welcome you to the 2020 edition of the IEEE International Conference on Communications (ICC 2020). For the first time, the conference takes place fully online, and we are experimenting with a completely new way to deliver the technical program and facilitate discussions between attendees and presenters.

In the historical crisis we are all living through, the role of communication networks as part of our critical infrastructure is clearer than ever. With stay-at-home orders and social distancing protocols, these networks have become the primary means for many of us to study, work, and stay in touch with family and friends. New technologies discussed in this conference will play a key role during and after the pandemic, from the use of mobile communications for contact tracing to autonomous vehicles for no-contact delivery. It has become urgent that the cutting edge research presented in ICC be translated into innovation that impacts our ability to move forward in the post-pandemic world.

The technical program of IEEE ICC 2020 consists of 13 symposia, 22 workshops, and 15 tutorials, in addition to exciting keynote speakers from industry, government, and academia. Some numbers:

- The 13 symposia received 2129 paper submissions, out of which 849 papers were accepted, corresponding to an acceptance rate of 39.8%. All papers underwent a rigorous review – every symposium paper was reviewed by at least 3 independent reviewers, with many receiving 4 or 5 reviews.
- The 22 workshops, focusing on topics that range from the use of machine learning in communications to cloud communications, received a total of 636 submissions, of which 312 were accepted for presentation during the workshop days.
- Tutorials are being offered by some of the leading researchers in the world on topics such as the tactile internet, quantum communications, blockchain, and communications to flying platforms, among many others.

Putting together an ambitious and broad technical program during these difficult times has required a lot of dedication from the TPC team. I would like to especially thank: the TPC co-

chairs, the workshop chairs, the tutorial chairs, the publication chairs, the student grants chairs, the symposium and SAC track chairs, and the workshop organizers. Our EDAS support person handled the herculean task of dealing with almost 1200 papers. And of course, we are grateful to all authors who contributed with their technical findings and presentations.

I hope you are all keeping safe and healthy, and that you enjoy the program that the team has put together for ICC 2020.

Luiz DaSilva

TPC Chair, ICC 2020

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