Location:
Virtual (during ISCAS 2021)

Date:
Monday 24th May 2021

Time:
17:00-18:00 CET (UTC +1)

1) Introductions of Attendees

At 17:00, the Chair of the Committee, Tyrone Fernando, opened the annual virtual meeting of the PECAS TC and welcomed all participants. The Chair introduced himself, the Chair-Elect (Zhen Li, Daniel), and the Secretary (Giulia Di Capua). All the participants also briefly introduced themselves.

Memberships and new applications

Tyrone Fernando presented the list of new members who requested to join the PECAS TC during the last year. Only two membership requests arrived since last year. None asked to become a Corresponding Member. Their memberships were unanimously approved by mail surveys sent to all TC members.

Full members
– Chen Zhiyuan, Fudan University, China (Nov. 2020)
– Meng Hua, Wuhan University, China (Jan. 2021)

Corresponding members
– none

Tyrone Fernando highlighted that the TC has no new membership requests since November 2020, and reminded how to become a PECAS-TC member. He invited all the participants to have a look to the relevant info available on PECAS website (https://ieee-cas.org/community/technical-committees/power-and-energy-circuits-and-systems-technical-committee-pecas, Section → Becoming a Member)

Tyrone Fernando summarized the current status of memberships for the TC. On May 2021, the PECAS TC included 63 Full Members (FMs) and 11 Corresponding Members (CMs). According to our Bylaws, Tyrone Fernando also highlighted and reminded the following conditions:
– a FM has rights to vote, propose motions and make statements at the annual meeting;
– a CM may attend the TC meeting with voice but without the right to vote;
– yearly, at ISCAS time, no-active FMs, or FMs who have not renewed IEEE/IEEE CASS membership become CMs, and CMs who have not renewed IEEE/IEEE CASS membership will leave the TC.

Giulia Di Capua added that the PECAS memberships status will be checked during the months of June/July and then properly updated. All members interested in possible changes in their status will be informed by mail.

Giulia Di Capua also reminded that:
– IEEE and IEEE CASS memberships are both mandatory to remain active members in PECAS TC;
– all members could ask in any moment to be removed from PECAS-TC, as well as to be re-considered for inclusion within the TC.
2) Approval of Agenda and Minutes from Last Meeting

Tyrone Fernando presented the meeting agenda. No comments or suggestions came from the attendees, and the agenda was unanimously approved.

The minutes from the last meeting held during ISCAS 2021 (virtual meeting) were previously sent by email to all TC members. Tyrone Fernando invited all the attendees to have a look to the minutes available on PECAS website (https://ieee-cas.org/community/technical-committees/power-and-energy-circuits-and-systems-technical-committee-pecas, Section ➔ Reports and Minutes)

Tyrone Fernando called to approve the minutes, which were unanimously approved.

3) Chair’s Report for Activities 2020/21

ISCAS 2021 report (Track Chairs: Zhen Li and Giulia Di Capua)

Tyrone Fernando reported that 1337 papers were submitted to ISCAS 2021: 82 papers out of the 1337 were submitted to Track 4.0, putting it in the 7th position among the 18 total tracks of ISCAS 2021. Detailed numbers and papers distribution were presented on slides shown during the meeting.

Tyrone Fernando stated that 49 papers out of 82 were accepted for presentation, with an acceptance rate of about 60%. (33 rejected papers and no withdrawn papers). These papers were distributed in 8 sessions, including 5 lecture sessions (25 papers) and 3 poster sessions (24 posters).

Overall, the ISCAS 2021 attraction for Track 4.0 was quite similar to the previous year, and given the current pandemic situation, this result has been considered extremely positive for the TC.

In addition to the papers accepted for Track 4.0, there was one special session organized and/or contributed by the PECAS TC members, which was not counted in the total number of accepted papers. In particular, under the PECAS-TC endorsement, the following special session has been presented at ISCAS 2020:


Tyrone Fernando thanked the 16 RCMs that served Track 4.0 supporting the review process. On average, the review process went well: each paper received 4.9 reviews, with a large number of high-quality papers with very good feedback from reviewers.

Regarding the review process, this year all RCMs received about the same number of papers and the load distribution was very well balanced across the 13 sub-tracks existing in Track 4.0. This result confirmed that the decision to renew the list of PECAS members involved in the review process was succesful.

Tyrone Fernando provided the following conclusions for the next ISCAS edition.

a. The PECAS-TC will continue to invite new people to join as RCMs, and ask for their confirmation on the topics of interest. A google form invitation will be sent to all members, to provide their availability and areas of interest.

b. Timely and compelling special sessions should be proposed for ISCAS 2022, and it is important to ask for the TC endorsement, to ensure a wider participation and keep trace of the activities carried on by members.

c. Given the submissions on Track 4.0, the current sub-tracks will be confirmed for next ISCAS, on wireless power transfer applications and on switch-mode power supplies.
Summary of Activity of PECAS TC (June 2020-May 2021)

Tyrone Fernando highlighted that the TC members’ activities between the June 2020 and May 2021 were summarized in the IEEE PECAS annual report, which will be submitted to the IEEE CASS VP Technical Activities, Prof. YK Chen, on June 2021. As usual, the relevant document will be made available on PECAS website in few weeks (https://ieee-cas.org/community/technical-committees/power-and-energy-circuits-and-systems-technical-committee-pecas, Section → Reports and Minutes)

A total number of 23 PECAS-TC members replied to the Annual Report, providing their contributions on the following technical activities: IEEE Conference/Event organizations; IEEE Journal Editorships; Awards, Honors, and Recognition; Keynote Speeches/Invited Talks; Other distinguished IEEE services.

The new form provided by the society for the annual report just focuses on CASS activities only. In the past, additional activities (including conference and journal publications) were included in this kind of reports, even if not totally CASS related.

The record of accomplishment from TC members’ is significant, with a good editorial service participation, a good participation in IEEE CASS activities, and a good presence in the technical committees of international CASS conferences. No awards, honors, keynote speeches or invited talks have been highlighted for 2020/21.

4) Election of PECAS TC officers 2021/2023

Tyrone Fernando reminded that the 2019-21 officers term is going to end. After ISCAS 2021, Tyrone will end his term as the Chair of PECAS TC, and Zhen Li (Daniel) will take over.

Tyrone Fernando suggested starting the election process of the new Chair-Elect and of the new Secretary of the TC. He invited all PECAS (voting) members to consider possible nominations for the positions of new Chair Elect and Secretary of the PECAS-TC (2021-2023). The following nominations/availabilities came from the TC:

- Chair-Elect nomination: Giulia Di Capua (Tyrone Fernando’s endorsement)
- Secretary nomination/availability: Chi-Seng Lam; Junrui Liang; Xi Chen

Tyrone Fernando proposed to confirm Giulia Di Capua as Chair-Elect of the PECAS-TC, given her availability and noticeable contribution to the TC activities. Members attending the meeting anonymously agreed and thanked Giulia Di Capua for her availability and active participation to PECAS-TC.

As for the Secretary role, Hiroo Sekiya proposed to have an official statement by the three candidates. Accordingly, Chi-Seng Lam, Junrui Liang and Xi Chen asked for support for their election. Giulia Di Capua proposed to have a written short summary of the candidates, including their recent CASS activities and their intention for covering the role of Secretary for the TC. After internal discussion, the members agreed to anonymously vote by using a Google-Form. The new officers will be elected by a majority vote of the voting members present at the annual committee meeting.

The election ended on June 4th, 2021.
Number of members attending the annual meeting: 26
Number of FULL (voting) members attending the annual meeting: 26
Number of received votes: 26

Xi Chen: 12 votes  Junrui Liang: 6 votes  Chi-Seng Lam: 8 votes

Accordingly, given the majority vote decision, Xi Chen was elected as the next PECAS-TC secretary.
A great appreciation went to Junrui Liang and Chi-Seng Lam for their participation to the election.
5) Proposed Activities for 2021/22

The PECAS TC target is to raise/maintain the number of ISCAS submissions in PECAS area, raise/maintain the number of SS proposals on emerging topics related to PECAS, and increase the number of SIs on emerging topics related to PECAS in IEEE CASS Journals. The TC is associated with three CASS Journals, i.e., IEEE Transactions on Circuits and Systems I: Regular Papers (TCAS-1), IEEE Transactions on Circuits and Systems Part II: Express Briefs (TCAS-2), and IEEE Journal on Emerging and Selected Topics in Circuits and Systems (JETCAS).

Zhen Li invited all TC members to be active in the proposal of *Special Issues in CASS Journals*. He also took the opportunity to announce the coming proposal for a Special Issue on:

- “Towards Reliability Enhancement and Smarter Sensing for Emerging Interacting Dynamics in High Renewable Penetrated Power System”, proposed by Dr. Zhen Li, Prof. Abdelali El Aroudi, Dr. Xiaozhe Wang, Prof. Innocent Kamwa and Dr. Dylan Dah-Chuan Lu, to be submitted to the IEEE Journal on Emerging and Selected Topics in Circuits and Systems.

Zhen Li solicited all TC members to be active in proposing *Special Sessions (SS) in the frame of ISCAS 2022*, which will be held on May 2022, in Austin (TX), USA. He also took the opportunity to announce the coming proposal for a Special Session on:

- “Cascading Failure for High Renewable Penetrated Power System”, proposed by Dr. Xi Zhang and Prof. tyrone Fernando, to be submitted to the IEEE ISCAS 2022.

Zhen Li encouraged the participation in the frame of *other CASS sponsored conferences*. On this regards, he announced one coming activity of interest for PECAS-TC members:

- “Innovation Workshop on Smart Grid and Energy Conversion”, to be held at Beijing Institute of Technology, December 2021 (contact person: Dr. Zhen Li).

Zhen Li eventually invited the participation to the CASS Distinguished Lecturer Program. On this regards, he announced that Dr. Sharma Anmol will be involved in an academic event organized in the frame of the industrial Distinguished Lecturer Program at Technical University of Munich, Germany, on June 2021.

6) New Business (if any)

Tyrone Fernando asked the attendees for any other business. No further communication came from the audience.

7) Meeting Adjournment

As a closing remark, Tyrone Fernando once again thanked all the present attendees for their participation and active involvement. The members thanked the TC officers for their excellent service.

The meeting was adjourned at 18:05.
8) Attendees List (in alphabetical order)

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<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>FM</th>
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<td>1</td>
<td>Adrian Ioinovici</td>
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<td>Chi-Seng Lam</td>
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<td>Chia-Chi Chu</td>
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<td>Daniel Molzahn</td>
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<td>Dongsheng Yu</td>
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*** Minutes taken by Giulia Di Capua
*** Revised and confirmed by Tyrone Fernando and Zhen Li

*** June 28th, 2021 (draft version)
*** August 6th, 2021 (final version)