

**Report to the Board of Governors**  
**IEEE Transactions on Information Theory**  
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**A. Transactions Updates**

1. Mail Dates: The mail dates and page counts from October 2006 through March 2007 are shown in Table 1 below. As can be seen from this table, all issues have been mailed before the cover date, and we are approximately on page budget for the year so far.

Issue	Mail Date	2005/06 Page Ct	2006/07 Page Est	2006/07 Page Ct
Oct	09/16/06	308	440	404
Nov	10/24/06	364	440	428
Dec	11/22/06	484	460	560
Jan	12/22/06	364	440	456
Feb	01/27/07	420	440	416
Mar	02/21/07	516	440	392

**Table 1: Mail Dates – October 2006 to March 2007**

2. Page Budgets: Comparisons of the above numbers with our page budget for this year, and similar comparisons for the previous two years, are shown below.

Page Published Through March 2007: 1,264  
Budget Through September 2007: 1,320  
Deviation: -4.2%

Actual Pages in 2006: 5,776  
Page Budget for 2005: 5,300  
Deviation: +9.0%

Actual Pages in 2005: 4,584  
Page Budget for 2005: 4,700  
Deviation: -2.5%

Extrapolating from the above, an estimate for the 2007 annual page count is 5,056 (compared to our budget of 5,300 pages). This estimate is very noisy, but the estimated issue sizes for April and May are each less than 400 pages. So, we could end up below the page budget this year if this trend continues. This may

be a sign that the recent rapid growth in the *Transactions* has hit a plateau for the time being. However, it is perhaps too early in the year to be able to predict accurately what will happen for the year as a whole.

3. Annual Volume: In 2006, we received 966 papers, which compares with 960 in 2005. As of March 8, 2007, 176 papers have been submitted to the *Transactions* this year, for an annualized rate of 959 papers. So, we seem to be roughly on track to stay in the same range as the past two years, again indicating that the growth in the *Transactions* may have slowed.
4. Implementation of Changes Proposed by the BoG: At its July 2006 meeting in Seattle, the Board of Governors voted to impose two changes on the *Transactions* in response to concerns about *Transactions* growth. One was to create a hierarchical table of contents, and the other was to impose a five-page limit on published Correspondence items. Both of these changes have been implemented. Beginning with the January 2007 issue, Regular Papers in the *Transactions* are now organized in the table of contents according to technical area. Also, all Correspondence items submitted in 2007 and beyond will be subject to the five-page limit. The Information for Authors on the inside back cover of the *Transactions* and on the Pareja website were modified to reflect this change (beginning in December 2006), and this restriction is cited explicitly on the Pareja submission site at the point at which authors must select between Regular and Correspondence submission. An analysis of the correspondence items appearing in the first three issues of this year shows that this restriction would have affected about half of our Correspondence items, and would have lowered the issue size by an average of about 45 pages per issue.
5. Five-Year Review: On February 15, 2007, the *Transactions* underwent its five-year review at the IEEE TAB meeting series in Los Angeles. The review consisted of a two-hour interview based on an extensive written document describing the content of the *Transactions* and quantifying its impact and its financial and intellectual health. The review panel consisted of TAB volunteers, and the Society was represented at the review by Marc Fossorier, Dave Neuhoff, Bixio Rimoldi and me. We seem to have to passed the review easily, with only a few very minor follow-up issues.
6. Book Reviews: Four book reviews have appeared in the *Transactions* since the last EIC report. Three reviews appeared in the December 2006 issue: a review by Joachim Hagenauer of Biglieri's *Coding for Wireless Channels*; a review by Paul Siegel of Immink's *Codes for Mass Data Storage System*; and a review by M. Vidyasagar of Ewens and Grants' *Statistical Methods in Bioinformatics (Second Edition)*. A review by Jim Massey of the second edition of Blahut's *Algebraic Codes for Data Transmission* appeared in the January 2007 issue.

## **B. Special Issues**

1. Submissions to the Special Issue on Models, Theory, and Codes for Relaying and Cooperation in Communication Networks (Guest Editors: Randall Berry, Massimo Franceschetti, Abbas El Gamal, Hesham El Gamal, Michael Gastpar, Gerhard Kramer and Nick Laneman) closed on September 1, 2006. The total number of submissions was

57, and these papers are currently being reviewed. The scheduled publication date of this issue is December 2007.

2. Submissions to the Special Issue on Information Theoretic Security (Guest Editors: Hideki Imai, Ueli Maurer and Yuliang Zheng) closed on February 16, 2007. The total number of submissions was 56, and these papers are currently being reviewed. The scheduled publication date of this issue is June 2008.
3. It is time to start planning for a special issue for 2009. I have been approached by Gil Alterovitz (Harvard/MIT Division of Health Sciences) about a possible special issue in the area of biomedicine that he is contemplating with two other guest editors. No proposal has been received yet.

### C. Editorial Board

1. Associate Editors – New Appointments: Four new appointments are submitted for BoG approval:
  - a. Adam Krzyzak (Concordia) will assume the AE position in Pattern Recognition, Statistical Learning & Inference, effective April 1, 2007. He will replace Peter Bartlett, who will have completed his term.
  - b. Urbashi Mitra (USC) will assume the position of AE At-Large, effective May 1, 2007. She will replace Vinay Vaishampayan, who will have completed his term.
  - c. Helmut Bölcskei (ETH) will assume one of the two AE positions in Detection & Estimation, effective June 1, 2007. He will replace Anders Host-Madsen, who will have completed his term.
  - d. Hirosuke Yamamoto (Tokyo) will assume one of the three AE positions in Shannon Theory, effective June 1, 2007. He will replace Kingo Kobayashi, who will have completed his term.

These will be my last appointments as EIC, as no further Editorial Board positions will become vacant until August 1, 2007.