

## Message from the Chairs

It is our great pleasure to welcome you to the first international workshop on Mobile Edge Communications (MECOMM), in conjunction with ACM SIGCOMM 2017. We have put together an exciting technical program including 10 top-quality papers addressing architectural challenges of mobile edge networks and tackling protocol and resource allocation problems; a keynote speech by IEEE fellow and SIGCOMM 17 General Chair, **Professor K. K. Ramakrishnan** (University of California Riverside); an invited talk by **Abhimanyu Gosain**, Technical Program director of Platforms for Advanced Wireless Research (PAWR) project office; and, an industrial panel of key corporates, influencing the future of mobile edge networks.

Mobile Edge Computing and Communications is quickly becoming one of the hottest and most influential topics in the area of computing and communication networks. It constitutes a paradigm shift from the traditional view of data-centre networking, where compute resources are infinite and are geographically centralised at the far-away cloud. Although this view comes with many advantages (e.g., easier to manage centralised view of compute resources) it also comes with a number of drawbacks (e.g., given the geographical centralisation, it cannot support very low-latency applications).

Our workshop aims at fostering focused discussions on the communication framework required to facilitate Mobile Edge Communications. The discussions will focus on marrying the requirements of virtual computing with the requirements of virtual networking in a number of aspects, including: enabling application- and/or service-awareness in network functions (e.g., service-aware routing), programmable control and management planes, resiliency and security of mobile edge clouds and networks, coordinated management and orchestration of network services.

With the exceptional line-up of papers that we have selected in this years programme, we will look into some of these issues and we will try to identify the most pressing issues in the area. MECOMM will primarily focus on communications at the edge, as opposed to computation only. While most major conferences address topics related to Mobile Edge Computing, we felt that there is space for joining the two aspects. Therefore, MECOMM will be a unique and unified venue for a more holistic discussion of the research issues and outcomes concerning mobile edge networks.

MECOMM is originally derived by the EU H2020 projects POINT and CHARISMA, and making it happen was only possible with the collaborative and volunteer work of many people. We thank **Dr. Ioannis Psaras** (University College London, UK) and **Prof. Kun Yang** (University of Essex, UK)

for leading a dedicated technical program committee, managing the submitted papers and organizing the program sessions; **Dr. Mays AL-Naday** (University of Essex, UK), **Dr. Konstantinos Katsaros** (Intracom Telecom, GR) and **Dr. Martin Reed** (University of Essex, UK) for organizing the program, handling the submission site and liaising the arrangements with the conference organizers; last but certainly not least, we thank our 24 TPC members for providing such high quality reviews in short notice.

Special thanks go to our sponsor, **InterDigital Europe**, for generously contributing to MECOMM financially and with public advertisement.

We have received a total of 21 papers, which shows that there is active interest from the community to put effort in this area. After a rigorous review process, where every paper received at least three reviews, with papers on the borderline receiving an additional one or two reviews, the TPC chairs decided to accept 10 out of the 21 submitted papers, resulting in acceptance rate of 47%. The papers had a good balance between academic and industrial contributions with roughly 45% of the submitted papers (i.e., 10 papers) having at least one author from the industry, 4 papers with authors with industrial affiliations only and 11 papers with authors of academic affiliation only. The statistics follow similar trends for the accepted papers (i.e., 5 out of 10 papers include at least one author from industry, while 5 papers include authors with academic affiliations only).

In terms of geographical distribution, 15 out of the 21 papers came from EU-only affiliated authors, 3 papers came from US-only affiliated authors, 1 paper from Japanese-affiliated authors, while 2 papers had a mix of US, EU and Brazil-affiliated authors. The accepted papers followed somewhat similar trends with 7 out 10 papers from EU-based authors, 2 papers from US-based authors and 1 paper from US, EU and Brazil-affiliated authors.

With ten high-quality papers on the programme, a keynote speaker and a panel of leading experts in the area, we have compiled an exciting programme, which we hope will keep the audiences attention engaged throughout the day. We hope you enjoy MECOMM @ ACM SIGCOMM 2017.

*MECOMM 2017 Organisers, TPC and General Chairs*