

# ITSoc Diversity and Inclusion (D&I) Committee

Stark Draper, 21 June 2020

**Committee:** Stark Draper (Chair), Emina Soljanin (ex-officio)

## **New members:**

- Todd Coleman (UC San Diego)
- Vinod Prabhakaran (Tata Institute of Fundamental Research)
- Nihar Shah (Carnegie Mellon University)
- Michèle Wigger (Telecom Paris)

**Constituting the Committee, from Bylaws:** “The Diversity and Inclusion Committee shall consist of a Chair, the Junior Past-President as an ex-officio member, and at least four additional members. The Chair shall be appointed by the Nominations and Appointments Committee with the approval of the Board. In turn, the Chair will appoint at least four additional members, also with approval of the Board. Typically, the Chair and members of the Committee will serve for three years, with members serving in staggered terms.

## **Motion**

“We request the ITSoc BoG to approve the proposed four members of the Diversity and Inclusion Committee.”

# Looking forward

## Committee's mandate (from Bylaws)

- “The Committee is responsible for creating and executing an ongoing diversity and inclusion strategy, presenting progress, plans, data, and metrics annually to the Board. Diversity and inclusion will include, but are not limited to, the issues of gender identity, ethnicity, sexual orientation, religion, geography, seniority, or other personal characteristics not related to ability, performance, or qualifications. The Committee is charged with ensuring that Information Theory Society events and processes are inclusive, welcoming and safe for everyone in the field of information theory and with developing and overseeing codes of conduct and best practices for all Society activities, including conferences, schools, and committees.

## Schedule for 2020

- **Spring:** Forming the committee; connecting with committee chairs who have related mandates (WITHITS, Student & Outreach, Membership, Online); connecting to IEEE-level Committee (to whom we feed data).
- **Summer:** Meetings to formulate near and longer-term objectives of committee; allocate responsibilities; start data collection for IEEE.
- **Fall:** Report to BoG; work the plan.