INTERCONNECT

ITS

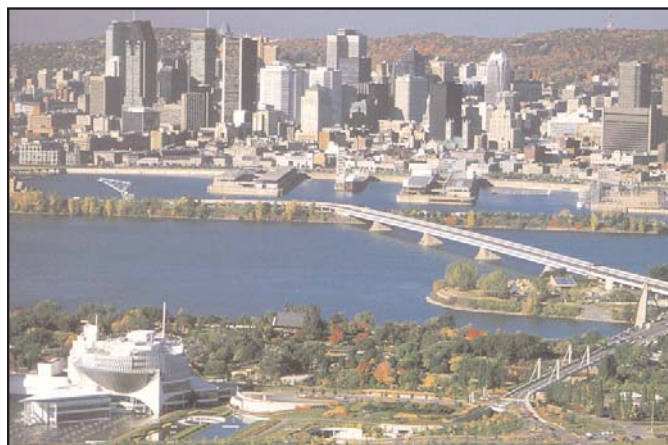## Inside This Issue

Message from the Chair

Dear ITS Members,

I am writing this message after having enjoyed the 16th ITS Biennial Conference, Beijing June 12–16, 2006, and the 17th European ITS Regional Conference at the University of Amsterdam, 22–24 August, 2006.

The Beijing conference captured our hearts and minds, and participants will cherish many fond memories of Chinese hospitality, graciousness and goodwill. The event exemplified the ideals and true spirit of ITS: scientific interchange, the sharing of new research results, professional networking and the making of new friendships. The theme of the ITS 16th Biennial Conference was 'Information Communication Technology: Opportunities and Challenges for the Telecommunications Industry'. The Conference was hosted by the Beijing University of Posts and Telecommunications (BUPT). The principal Conference Organizers were Professor Ting-Jie Lu, Dean, School of Economics and Management at BUPT, together with ITS Board Member Professor Xu Yan from the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology.

ITS Biennial 2008 to be Held in Montreal

The ITS 17th Biennial Conference to be held in Montreal, Canada, June 24–28, was announced during the Board of Directors meeting in Beijing. The Conference, to be held at the Hilton Montreal Bonaventure Hotel, has the theme, 'The Changing Structure of the Telecommunications Industry and the New Role of Regulation'. The conference's academic host is the University of Sherbrooke with major corporate host and sponsor TELUS. Other Conference contributors are the Centre for the Study of Regulatory Economics and Finance (CEREF, University of Sherbrooke), Centre Interuniversitaire de Recherche en Sciences et Technologies (CIRST, University of Quebec, Montréal), Telebec (Ministry of Economic Development), Innovation and Export Trade (Tourisme-Montréal) and Ville de Montréal. Additionally, several Canadian and international firms have expressed interest in sponsoring conference events. These arrangements will be announced as participation is confirmed. The Sponsorship/Exhibition Committee seeks sponsorship from international firms and organizations. Organization wishing to be involved with Conference are requested to contact any of the Conference Organizing Committee's Members—Anastassios Gentzoglanis (anastassios.gentzoglanis@usherbrooke.ca), Stephen Schmidt (stephen.schmidt@telus.com), and Sandy Levin (slevin@siue.edu).

Conference Publications

Electronic and/or paper-based Conference Proceedings are to be published. Further, selected papers will be published in book form. The Committee is also seeking to publish a special issue of a telecommunications journal comprised of selected papers.

Conference Booths and Exhibition Kiosks

Academic publishers and telecommunications suppliers are kindly requested to contact a Member of the Organizing Committee should they wish to have booths and exhibition kiosks during the Conference.

Young Researcher / Student Prize

A prize for the 'best paper' presented at the Conference will be awarded to a young researcher or student.

Schedule

Conference organization milestones are:
- Call for papers: early-September 2007
- Abstracts due: late-November 2007
- Abstract approval: mid-January 2008
- Paper submission: May 1 2008

Registration Fee

Before April 15 2008

Regular ....US$500
Students ....US$250
Developing country delegate
(CIDA grant approved) ....Free

After April 15 2008

Regular ....US$550
Students ....US$300
Developing country delegate
(CIDA grant approved) ....Free

Accommodation

Rooms are reserved at Hilton Montreal Bonaventure Hotel (5 star) for delegates at the special rate of CA$189 (approximately US$166 or €132). The hotel, which is also the conference venue, is located downtown Montreal. The Hilton is outfitted with cutting-edge technology and contains a large single-level convention complex. The Hotel's rooftop terrace overlooks landscaped gardens that contain, among other delights, a duck pond (www.hiltonmontreal.com).

Accompanying Persons Excursions and Post-Conference Tourist Activities

Several sightseeing excursions in and around Montreal have been arranged for persons accompanying delegates. Delegates are welcome to attend post-conference excursions. Both traditional (city tour and museums) and exotic (fjords, whale watching, native and aboriginal eco-tourism) excursions are available. The proposed tours include:
- Montreal city tour
- Old Montreal city tour
- Whale watching (Baie-Ste-Catherine / Tadoussac) (www.croisieresaml.com)
- Discover Saguenay Fjord (www.croisieres2001.com/introang.html)
- Quebec city or Montreal cruises
- Capital region excursion (city of Ottawa and Parliament buildings)
- Quebec city excursion (450th anniversary celebration)
- Niagara Falls excursion

Tourist Sites for Canada, Quebec and Montreal

Excellent resources for planning travel within Canada as part of your trip to Montreal 2008 are: www.canadatourism.com and www.explore.canada.travel. A valuable Quebec resource is www.quebec400.qc.ca. For Montreal both www.tourisme-montreal.org and www.meetings.canada.travel are extremely helpful.

Montreal

Montreal is situated in the southern part of Quebec province, enjoying comfortable temperatures of 18–20 degrees Celsius (65–67 Fahrenheit) in late-June. Downtown offers extensive shopping opportunities located near the Conference venue. Uniquely, Montreal's underground city (Double-Decker City or Underground City) is the largest in North America. This 33 kilometer (20 mile) underground pedestrian network, lying directly under the heart of the city, links thousands of boutiques, major hotels, restaurants, universities, office buildings and attractions. This is the Montreal of Montrealers. Every day more than 500,000 people cross the underground city for work, shopping, dining or simply for an outing in town. In Montreal, there is no 6 pm exodus to suburbs. Sainte-Catherine and Sherbrooke Streets, which cross most of the city from east to west (very close to the Montreal Hilton) have restaurants of every nationality, international name-brand boutiques, great department stores, intimate café-terraces, designer boutiques, trend-setting art galleries and museums—including the prestigious Museum of Fine Arts—and very happening nightclubs and bars. The underground provides access to about 40 theatres, cinemas and other entertainment venues, all accessible via Montreal's underground Metro. A spectacular view of McGill College Avenue and Mount Royal comes into view from the Place Ville Marie esplanade, the birthplace of the underground network. Downtown Montreal is a mixture of centuries-old buildings and modern skyscrapers.

ITS Biennial 2008 to be Held in Montreal (cont'd)

The Quartier International is a new urban space near the Hilton Bonaventure Hotel. The Chinatown, Palais des Congrès (Convention Centre) with its colorful glass façade and Place Jean-Paul-Riopelle are worth visiting. Located within a fifteen minute walk from the Conference venue is Montreal's Casino. Other points of interest concerning the city are:

- 2008 is Quebec City's 400th anniversary (the provincial capital city is 220 kilometers northeast of Montreal). Those wishing to celebrate in a European manner, yet with North American ambience, are encouraged to travel to Quebec City. Montreal also has many activities before, during and after the conference. For example, the Just for Laughs Festival, Grand Prix, Fireworks Festival, Hot-Air Balloon Festival and Jazz Festival.
- Montreal is renowned for fine French, traditional Quebec and international cuisine, with many restaurants well-known for their gastronomy.
- Montreal has a unique character and is the second most populous Canadian city behind Toronto. Montreal is bilingual. The city benefits from a mix of European and North American outlooks.
- Montreal airport is situated 25 minutes from the downtown precinct.
- Montreal is a very safe and cosmopolitan city. The city has two English-speaking and two French-speaking universities.
- Montreal is a green city, with its majestic mountain (Mont Royal) within the town centre. One can enjoy the city's wonderful scenery from atop Mont Royal.

Conference information is available at the ITS web site: http://www.itsworld.org.

Message from the Chair (cont'd)

The main Organizer of the Amsterdam conference was Dr. Brigitte Preissl, Vice Chair of the ITS, together with Local Organizers Professor Harry Bouwman (Delft University) and Professor Nico van Eijk (Amsterdam University). Many themes central to ITS were discussed in a lively manner while a happy spirit pervaded social events. I congratulate the organizers for this fine event. Indeed, the European Regional ITS conferences have a long tradition of success. These events emphasize the strong presence of the ITS in Europe and contribute to the Society's mission 'to provide a forum where academic, private sector, and government communities can meet to identify pressing new problems and issues, share research results, and form new relationships and approaches to address outstanding issues'. Please visit the Web site www.itseurope.org for information concerning past achievements and conferences.

Fortunately, ITS' presence in Europe will continue through the work of Brigitte Preissl. Brigitte is a frequent speaker at ITS events. More recently, Brigitte has been heavily involved in the organization of ITS events, most notably the European Regional ITS events held at Porto 2005 and Amsterdam 2006, and she will be involved in the next European Regional ITS, convened in Istanbul, September 2–5, 2007. Dr. Preissl possesses qualities that ensure the successful continuation of ITS European events: diligence, a commitment to excellence, a comprehensive view of the research agenda, strong linkages to industry and academia, and an ability to build personal friendships within the ITS community.

ITS is also fortunate to have an excellent Regional Conference Organizer in Perth, Australia—Professor Gary Madden. Professor Madden has organized three much appreciated regional conferences (2001, 2003, 2005), attracting outstanding academics from around the world, as well as many new and promising researchers. Further, Professor Madden has been deeply committed to producing well-edited books based on the conferences, published by international printers of renown. I am glad to inform you that Professor Madden will continue with a regional ITS Africa-Asia-Australasia, August 26–28, 2007. I am sure that those attending will not be disappointed.

Prior to the Beijing conference, the ITS convened the Society's annual Board of Directors meeting. The ITS Committees (Conferences & Seminars; Finance; Marketing & Promotions; Membership and Nominations; Publications; and Strategic Planning) reported their respective activity and results (see *Connections* on page 5 of this issue of *Interconnect*).

One of the most important decisions was the selection of the 2008 Biennial Conference venue. I am pleased to announce that the 17th ITS Biennial Conference is to be held in Montreal, June 24–27, 2008. The meeting is Co-Hosted by the Université de Sherbrooke and TELUS. The Conference Executive Committee Chair is Executive Vice President Janet Yale (TELUS). The Co-Chairs are Rector Bruno-Marie Béchard (Université de Sherbrooke) and Minister Raymond Bachand (Ministère de Développement Économique, Innovation et Exportation du Québec). The ITS2008 Conference Organizing Committee Chair is Professor Anastassios (Tasos) Gentzoglanis (University of Sherbrooke). Conference Co-Chairs are Stephen Schmidt (TELUS) and Stanford (Sandy) Levin (Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville). On behalf of the Society, I have every confidence that with Sandy, Stephen and Tasos at the helm, the ITS Montreal 2008 event will be a Biennial no Member will want to miss. TELUS is a long standing supporter of the ITS, and both Professor Gentzoglanis and Professor Levin have been active Members of the Society for nearly two decades.

Since the April issue of *Interconnect* several changes have occurred in ITS Board and Committee Member ranks. The ITS is pleased to welcome three new Board Members: Professor Hitoshi Mitomo (Waseda University, Tokyo) elected April 2006; Mr. Christian (Chris) Dippon (Vice President, NERA Economic Consulting, San Francisco) elected July 2006; and Professor Heikki Hämmäinen (Helsinki University of Technology) elected August 2006. Chris fills the seat vacated by Dr. Aniruddha (Andy) Banerjee who resigned from NERA Economic Consulting. However, the Society is extremely pleased to announce that Andy's expertise and energies have not been lost to the Board. Andy, in his new

position, convinced Analysis Group to join the Society as a Global Corporate Sponsorship. Accordingly, Andy Banerjee has been re-elected as the Analysis Board Representative. At the Beijing meeting several Directors were proposed for re-election: James Alleman, Loretta Anania, Erik Bohlin, Hidenori Fuke, Gary Madden, Juergen Mueller and Xu Yan. Also, at the meeting, Brigitte Preissl was elected as the ITS Vice Chair, Xu Yan the Chair of the Strategic Planning Committee, Andrea Kavanaugh and Patricia Longstaff the Co-Chairs of the Marketing and Promotions Committee, while Stephen Schmidt is the inaugural Chair of the Web Development Committee (created to support and enhance ITS' online presence). Stephen and this Committee continue the service and support provided by TELUS to ITS over many years, and hopefully for many years to come. TELUS' support is gratefully acknowledged. I also offer my thanks to Lucy Firth (immediate past ITS Vice Chair) for her dedicated service to the Society. I am delighted to report that Lucy has agreed to continue to serve on the ITS Board.

I also wish to take this opportunity to indicate the Society's appreciation for continued association with Corporate Sponsors and Society Members. This support is critical to the vitality of ITS community and their activities. In particular, on behalf of the Society, I wish to acknowledge and extend appreciation to: Analysis Group, Arnold & Porter, BAKOM, Deutsche Telekom, France Telecom, IDATE, InfoCom Research Inc., KT, NERA Economic Consulting, NTT DoCoMo, the Telecommunications Authority of Turkey and TELUS. Without the engagement and active participation in the Society by government and industry members the ITS would find it more difficult to fulfill its mission and goals.

ITS has traditionally relied on Partners and Co-Organizers in conducting regional events of mutual interest. IDATE, for example, recently organized seminars with the support of the ITS. I am pleased to announce that this tradition is to continue through 2006: 20 October, 'The State of Telecom: A Trans-Atlantic Dialogue',

Co-Organized by Columbia University and IDATE, convened at Columbia University and supported by the ITS; and 14 November, 'Reviewing the Review', co-organized by IDATE and PriceWaterhouseCoopers, convened in Montpellier and supported by the ITS. Selected papers from these events are to be published in *Communications & Strategies*.

Finally, to be effective and respond to the needs of its constituency the ITS seeks correspondence from Society Members and the community. Please let us know how we can best continue to most effectively serve your professional interests and aspirations. For more information on the ITS please visit the Society's Web site (www.itsworld.org). I look forward to working with you and hope to see you soon at a future ITS event.

Sincerely,
Erik Bohlin
ITS Chair

2006 ITS Members Survey

The 2006 Members Survey was conducted in March 2006 by the Strategic Planning Committee. The survey document is the same as that used in 2005 (which was not sent due to technical difficulties). Fifty-four members completed the survey. This low response is due to technical difficulties. The main findings were:

Member Demographics:

Emphasis of Current Role—The most popular response is Research (40 votes) at 45%. The next greatest response is Policy, Teaching and then Management. While Sales were reported by 10, it carries a small weight. While only 7 respondents reported Legal, it was a major component of their employment (28%).

Affiliate Activity—Of 49 respondents, 29 are affiliated with an Academic institution, 8 with Business, 7 with Government and 4 Service Providers (no Vendors).

Country of Employment—Of 48 respondents, 27 are employed in Europe, 13 in North America, 3 in Asia, 3 in Australia and 1 each in the Middle East and South America. Lack of respondents from Africa and India and only one from South America and Middle East is cause for concern. Seventeen respondents work in countries other than the one in which they are employed.

Sector Emphasis of Work—45 of 48 respondents are at least partly working in the Telecommunications Sector, the majority involved 100%. Information Technology is next most important sector.

Substantive Questions:

Member interest in potential ITS services are measured on a 7 point Likert (0-6) scale. Most popular was to read short expert papers on Current Topics Online (4.9), followed by reading Refereed Papers Online (4.6) and Refereed Papers Offline (4.5). Reading articles by Leading Academics and by Policymakers scored highly

(4.4 and 3.9 resp.). Reading was more popular than writing. The result for reading *Communications & Strategies* (0-6, never—always) scored 3.7. Having *C&S* Available Online scored 4.1. Thirty-four percent of respondents planned to attend the Beijing conference, while 12% were undecided. Sixty-seven percent of respondents plan to attend a regional conference, with 24% undecided. Only Europe favored targeted half-day Expert Sessions with a score of 3.4 (0-6, never attend—always attend). North America is next with 2.3. All other areas report mean scores of between 1.1 and 1.9. The survey document suggested three other activities potentially hold interest for Members: Online Discussions restricted to 4 hours (2.0), Chat Rooms without time limit (2.2) and Reading Groups (3.4). The majority of members want to be able to contact other members via a third-party trusted list (26 yes, 6 no, 8 without response) and for other members to be able to contact them (33 yes, 4 no, 9 without response).

Beijing Board of Directors Meeting Report

The ITS Board of Directors met on June 12, 2006 in Beijing prior to the 17th Biennial Conference. The 2006 ITS Board meeting was attended by 23 of 29 Directors. Two observers also attended: Michael Schipp for Gary Madden and Kuddusi Yazici with Turgut Ayhan Beydogan.

Chair, Erik Bohlin opened the meeting by stating that the Society is in a strong position with increased individual (more than 300) and corporate membership. This situation has resulted from well-organized Biennial and Regional conferences supported by committed local hosts, and properly functioning newsletter, Web site, administrative routines and back-office oversight.

Proposals to hold the 2008 Biennial Conference were presented to Directors who decided that the ITS Biennial 2008 Conference is to be held in Montreal on June 24–27. The meeting will be Co-Hosted by the Université de Sherbrooke and TELUS. The ITS 2008 Conference Organizing Committee Chair is Professor Anastassios (Tasos) Gentzoglanis (University of Sherbrooke). Conference Co-Chairs are Stephen Schmidt (TELUS) and Stanford (Sandy) Levin (Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville). One of the most important considerations for this decision was the long time elapsed since last holding a North American event (1988). The Montreal conference had moreover already obtained strong support from local governments and corporate sponsors, and, of course, a major commitment toward scientific excellence. The Board also offered the Montreal Organizers suggestions as to how they might modify their proposal.

Stanford Levin explained that Society bylaws need revision due to the name 'International Telecommunications

Society' being made available in Delaware (now the registered name of the association). Sandy noted that a 60% quorum of all Board Members is required to approve the changes to Society bylaws. The Board voted to amend the bylaws as identified in the distributed materials.

Lucy Firth stood aside as ITS Vice-Chair and Strategic Planning Committee Chair. Brigitte Preissl was elected Vice Chair. Xu Yan was promoted to Chair of the Strategic Planning Committee. The Board thanked Lucy for her efforts. Stephen Schmidt began service as Chair of the new Web Development Committee and Member of the Executive Committee.

Finally, the Board's focus at the 2006 Beijing Meeting was the consideration of Committee activity and their reports. Committee reports are summarized below.

Membership and Nominations Committee

Sandy Levin presented the report of the Membership and Nominations Committee

Sandy reiterated the policy of Individual and Corporate Membership, noting that the inclusion of membership fees in Biennial Conference registration fees establishes and prolongs only Individual Membership. The discussion considered how best to attract more Corporate Members. Ideas discussed included giving Corporate Members a 2-year Board

Membership or allowing Non-Member Corporation representation on the Board. The Committee is to prepare a memo concerning this issue and assess options for ITS policy. Discussion then turned to whether Non-Board Individual Members are eligible to join Society committees. According to the bylaws this occurrence is allowed. Further, candidatures of Board Members whose terms were due to expire were presented, with re-elections for a new term until 2012. The board members in slate were Jim Alleman, Loretta Anania, Erik Bohlin, Hidenori Fuke, Gary Madden, Juergen Mueller and Xu Yan.

Finance Committee

Leland Schmidt presented the Financial Report to the Board

The meeting noted that, although 2005 is a Non-Biennial year the Society is in a sound financial position. Comparable end-year financial statements (for Non-Biennial the years of 2001 and 2003) were tabled. The documents indicated similar financial positions. Board Meeting expenses and insurance fees were discussed. The meeting suggested that financial and other data be regularly tabled for a 2-year period in future Finance Committee reports.

Strategic Planning Committee

Lucy Firth presented the Report of the Strategic Planning Committee

Lucy reported from the 2006 Member Survey (see this issue of *Interconnect*) there needs to be more vendor Corporate Members. Another survey is required to determine current Corporate Member interests. In

particular, inquiry is needed into Corporate Member interests and how to best meet them. A suggested intervention includes means to attract Corporate Members such as developing short expert statements on specific issues or more extensive use of Listserv. Discussion followed on changes to the ITS mission statement. The revision proposed is, 'to provide a non-aligned and non-profit forum where academic, private sector, and government communities can meet to identify pressing new problems and issues, share research results, and form new relationships and approaches to address outstanding issues. ITS places particular emphasis on the interrelationships among socioeconomic, technological, legal, regulatory, competitive, organizational, policy, and ethical dimensions of the evolving applications, services, technology, and infrastructure of the communications, computing, Internet, information content, and related industries'. The Board approved this revision to the Mission Statement.

Publications Committee

Michael Schipp presented the Publications Committee Report on behalf of Gary Madden who was unable to attend due to illness

The *Interconnect* newsletter now appears in electronic form only, posted to the ITS Web site two to three times per year. Don Romaniuk (ITS Secretary) recently stood down as Editor of *Interconnect* and as administrator of the Society's Web site (www.itsworld.org). The Society wishes to thank Don for his unselfish efforts. Additionally, Gary Madden (Acting Editor, *Interconnect*) reports that his task is made easier by the

excellent condition and documentation of newsletter materials. Gary's task in preparing *Interconnect* for publication is further eased by assistance received from Michael Schipp. Stephen Schmidt agreed to accept the position of ITS Web site Editor. The report contains three motions concerning future publication strategy: that the Organizers of Biennial Conferences be encouraged to add a component to the conference registration fee to be applied toward the production of a conference volume; that all Conference Organizers be encouraged to include a plan that proposes to *Communications & Strategies* the potential for a special issue or collection of papers via the conference application procedure; and that the Editorial Panel of a conference volume or special issue be considered a reward to local organizers, and should include a Publications Committee Member or Board Member with a special interest or expertise in the area. The Board discussion concluded with tabling the motion until the next board meeting.

Marketing and Promotions Committee

Andrea Kavanaugh and Patricia Longstaff presented the Report of the Marketing and Promotions Committee

The ITS brochure, last published in July 2005, is in need of review. It is noted that brochures are in use from one Biennial conference until the next. Discussion followed whether

the brochure should be more multicultural, and used more as a conference or membership generator, and whether it is more important to distribute the brochure in the non-ITS environment. It was also considered that printed material increases awareness of the Web site and is thus valuable. Andy Banerjee referred to the NERA Economic Consulting brochure which is long-lived. The brochure can be updated by making inserts into pockets. Andrea asked how to leverage the Web site for use by members. Suggestions included the establishment of a digital library, redesign of the Web site and the provision of discussion forums. The expense in moving from a static to a dynamic Web site format was noted. It was further proposed that Society brochures, Web site and cross promotions with other organizations should be pursued. Such alliances extend interrelationships and increase the possibility that individuals from other communities would migrate to ITS activities. Erik Bohlin noted that these topics should be formally considered by the Web Development Committee.

Conference Committee

Xu Yan presented the Conference Committee Report on behalf of Teodosio Pérez Amaral who was unable to attend

Detail of the Beijing 2006 conference was tabled. In total, 210 papers and a student paper stream are to be presented. About 300 delegates are attending the event. Delegates are comprised of individual international

Connections (cont'd)

and local attendees, and Corporate Members. Discussion on conference publication mode followed, and included several motions proposed in the Publications Committee report. Several Board Members preferred to pursue scholarly journal as opposed to conference volumes as a mode of publication. It was argued that a conference volume should not be an additional requirement imposed on Organizers. However, the discussion recognized that the conference should have 'tangible' output. A suggestion is to make greater use of on-line publications. In particular, conference papers should be made available online and remain so for a specified period. To this end, all documents and papers should be transferred to the ITS Secretariat. Preferential access for students is an important element of this proposal.

Web Development Committee

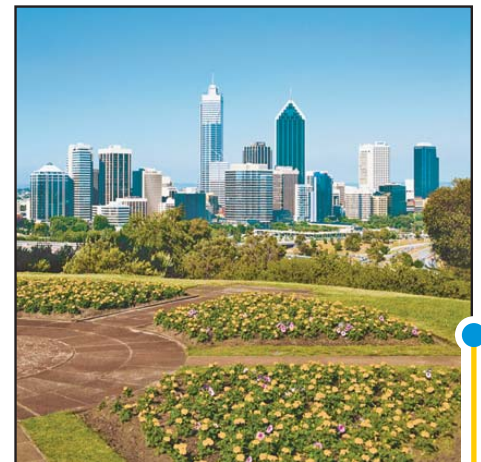*Stephen Schmidt presented the Web Development Committee Report*

Stephen has commenced Web site operation. The site is hosted by TELUS. Procedures are in place for the distribution of information within the ITS, also this material is increasingly being displayed and distributed via the Internet. The role and purpose of the Committee was then discussed. It was agreed that the Web site is in need of redesign. Andrea Kavanaugh offered support for this project with resources in return for a token payment. The Web Development Committee was then established by unanimous vote. A budget is to be developed and approved by the Executive Committee.

ITS Africa-Asia-Australia Regional Conference 2007

The ITS is proud to announce the Africa-Asia-Australasia Regional Conference 2007 in Perth, Western Australia, August 26–28. The Conference is hosted by Communication Economics and Electronic Markets Research Centre, Curtin University of Technology. The Conference theme is, 'Corporate Strategy and the Path to a New Economy'. Conference tracks include: Corporate Strategy and Analysis; Business Forecasting and Mobile Market Dynamics; Internet-enabled Commerce; Market Innovation and Economic Development; Technology and R&D; Real Options, Productivity and the New Economy; Intellectual Property, Security and Regulation; and Industry Policy and Governance. Conference sponsors include Analysis Group, NERA Economic Consulting, Australian Competition and Consumer Commission and Electronic Telecommunications

Research Institute of Korea. A Call for Papers is to be issued in November.

For more information contact Michael Schipp on michael.schipp@cbs.curtin.edu.au, or visit the Conference Web site at: http://www.cbs.curtin.edu.au/ business/research/conferences/ international-telecommunications-society-2007

ITS provide forums where academic, business, and government researchers as well as industry practitioners, policy makers, representatives of international bodies, and consultants present and discuss research results, and share and explore new ideas. The most important of such forums is a series of ITS Biennial Conferences. Also, a series of smaller regional conferences are important contributions, regularly drawing large numbers of delegates and generating valuable discussion. The Biennial Conference and a regional conference were held in 2006.

Beijing

The 16th ITS Biennial Conference, with the theme 'Information Communication Technology: Opportunities and Challenges for Telecommunications', June 12–16 in Beijing, China. The event was successfully Co-Organized by the E-Commerce Center at HKUST Business School and Beijing University of Posts and Telecommunications. This inaugural Chinese ITS conference attracted more than 300 participants from 36 countries. The former Minister of the Ministry of Information Industry officiated at the Opening Ceremony. Senior Officials from the Ministry of Information Industry of China (MII), the Office of the Telecommunications Authority of Hong Kong (OFTA), the European Commission and the U.S. Federal Communications Commission (FCC) delivered keynote speeches. 210 papers were presented in parallel sessions.

The Conference received sponsorship from domestic and foreign corporations that included China Telecom, China Mobile and SK Telecom. In addition to vigorous debate, the Conference Organizers arranged several colorful social and cultural activities. Delegates that attended the Conference Dinner in the Ju Ying Hall of the Friendship Palace were entertained by Chinese music performed by local children from the Peking Opera and an astonishing calligraphy display.

Buses transported Delegates to the Summer Palace for the Farewell Dinner. Organizers led delegates through the palace gardens around the tranquil Kunming Lake to the Royal Theater or Hall for Listening to Orioles. The Hall is among the most famous restaurants in China. The restaurant specializes in serving Imperial dishes and desserts. Guests were served sumptuous dishes *alfresco* while being entertained with Chinese music, singing and the ever-present birds. The last day of the Conference treated delegates to a bus ride to the Great Wall, the Ming Tombs and jade stores.

"The conference captured our hearts and minds, and those of us who participated cherish many fond memories of Chinese hospitality and elegance. The event took place in the best possible ITS spirit: scientific interchange, new research results, professional networking and new friendships", said Prof. Erik Bohlin, ITS Chairman, in his letter to the Organizers.

Amsterdam

The 17th European Regional ITS Conference, which focused on next-generation telecommunications infrastructure and services, was held August 22–24, 2006 in Amsterdam. Th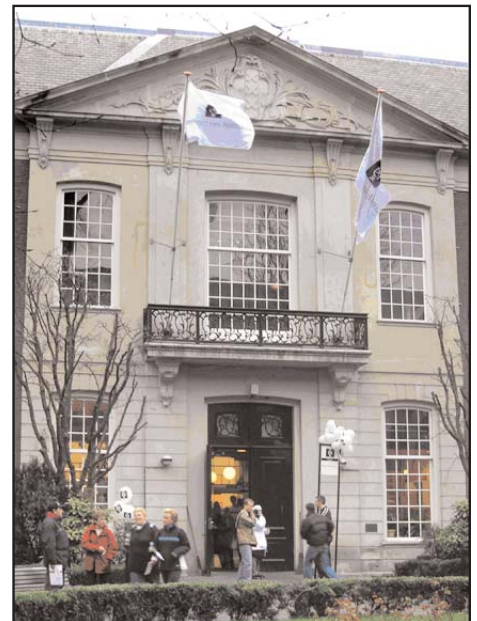e conference was held in one of the oldest University of Amsterdam (Oudehuispoort) buildings. Local partners came from Delft University of Technology, Telematica Institute, TNO and the University of Amsterdam, and were strongly involved not only in organizational, but also in content related matters. Harry Bouwman (Delft University of Technology) Chaired the large team that organized the conference venue, necessary facilities, social events planning and appointment of an impressive selection of Keynote Speakers. The team worked jointly with the ITS Europe Office. The Keynote Speakers were: Professor Jens Arnbaak (Professor, Delft University of Technology, former Chair of Onafhankelijke Post en Telecommunicatie Autoriteit—OPTA, the Dutch Post and Telecom Regulator—and Chairman, European Regulators Group—ERG); Prof Dr. E. Huizer (Director of Strategy, Innovation and Business Development, NOB Cross Media Facilities and Professor of Internet Applications at the

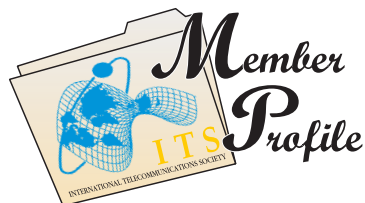University of Utrecht. Huizer is also involved in the introduction of HDTV to the Netherlands); Professor M. Weijnen (Professor of Energy and Process Systems Engineering, Faculty of Technology, Policy and Management, Delft University of Technology, and the founding and Scientific Director of the TU Delft Interfaculty Research Center for Design and Management of Infrastructures); Professor Andrea Renda (Senior Researcher, Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS), Bruxelles and Economics Lecturer, LUISS, Rome). ITS Chair Erik Bohlin opened and Vice-Chair Brigitte Preissl closed the conference. In total, 140 participants attended the event. Of the delegates 63 are academics (20 students), 33 are employed at research institutions, 14 are affiliated with government or

regulatory agencies and 19 hold positions in industry. Delegates represented 26 countries (20 European and 6 non-European). As all abstracts were reviewed by two selected Committee Members, almost 280 reviews were conducted. A total of 95 papers were presented in Parallel Sessions covering a wide range of topics comprising PhD presentations, business experience and research findings. Special sessions were dedicated to Next-Generation Networks, New Media and Broadcasting as well as Mobile Internet. The conference was financially supported by the Foundation Next-Generation Infrastructure, Deutsche Bank, British Telecom and the University of Amsterdam. Generous non-financial support was received from Delft University of

Technology, TNO, Telematica Institute, the University of Amsterdam, German Institute for Economic Research and Deutsche Telekom. The Conference Organizers are very grateful for this support and commitment by Sponsors who showed interest in European Regional ITS conferences over many years.

Member Profile
Turgut Ayhan Beydogan

Turgut Ayhan Beydogan

Dr. T. Ayhan Beydogan was born in 1962 in Turkey. He is married with two children. After graduating from Ankara University, Faculty of Law in 1985, Ayhan graduated with an MA from Gazi University Institute of Social Science Public Law Department in 1990. Dr. Beydogan earned an MA degree from Leicester University, Faculty of Law in 1993 before returning to Turkey. In 2002 Ayhan was awarded a PhD from Selcuk University's Public Law Department. Dr. Beydogan's professional experience commenced with an Assistant

Expert appointment in General Directorate of Laws and Degrees in the Prime Ministry in 1986, he was appointed as an Expert in 1990. In 1991 Ayhan transferred his expertise to the Police Academy by accepting a Research Assistant on Constitutional Law position. In 1995 Dr. Beydogan returned to the Prime Ministry as Head of the Sectoral Competition and Consumer Rights Department in the Telecommunications Authority in 2000, and later a Member of Board in 2004. In 2005 Ayhan was appointed to the Board of International Telecommunications Society. In the same year the Turkish Government nominated Ayhan as a Country Candidate for the post of Deputy Secretary General of International Telecommunications Union (ITU) for elections to be held

in November 2006. Dr. Beydogan published a book entitled, *Political Freedom of Expression in Turkish Law under the Light of European Human Rights Convention*, which gained the First Prize Award granted by the Liberal Thought Community on June 7, 2003. Ayhan published articles concerned with Information Societies and Telecommunications, as well as Privacy and Freedom of Rights issues. Dr. Beydogan has participated in more than 50 international conferences including representing Turkey at many OECD and ITU meetings. Ayhan enjoys traveling and appreciating the beauty of nature. Ayhan also takes pleasure in swimming and watching football (soccer) on television. Among his many societal activities include supporting the education of poor children.

The Mobile Society Research Institute at NTT DoCoMo (www.nttdocomo.com) and (www.moba-ken.jp/english/index.html)

Harumichi Yanagisawa is an ITS Board Member representing NTT DoCoMo. Harumichi is Deputy Managing Director of the Mobile Society Research Institute (MSRI). MSRI, established in April 2004, is at the forefront of the DoCoMo research drive.

MSRI Establishment

As a leading mobile phone company DoCoMo conducts research on aspects of the impact of mobile telephony. With more than a billion people currently using mobile phones (85 million in Japan) this equipment has become part of people's daily lives. MSRI was established with a mission to independently and freely examine both negative and positive societal consequences from mobile telephony's explosive growth. This research program is independent of the business interests of the company or, more generally, the mobile communication industry. The increasing penetration of mobile multimedia through mobile phones has impacted on conventional social mechanisms. Mobile phones look and feel totally different from the portable phones developed early in the industries history that were equipped only with a voice communication capability. Today, mobile phones allow always-on Internet connection, e-mail and digital photography, combined with the possible use of e-money capabilities. Mobile phones are a comprehensive media, used increasingly in everyday life, changing the awareness and behavior of network subscribers. Through these changes, modern communities are shifting toward a mobile society. The role of the MSRI is to examine social change and any new issues that arise from this shift. The Internet revolution and the emergence of a mobile society have brought economic

growth, but associated side effects need to be carefully examined. With rapid technological progress accurate prediction is often difficult. A role of the Institute is to research future society, in particular, peoples' lives and psychology in the face of ubiquitous mobile devices. It is essential to imagine this future environment and to understand people's response to environmental changes. Through this activity we can develop countermeasures in advance. This understanding, described as 'having a future psychology', is of utmost importance and a MSRI basic concept. We believe that through our efforts we will enhance the positive benefits derived from a mobile society while minimizing any negative consequences.

2006 Research Activity

MSRI investigates mobile phone convenience and technology, creation of new cultures, generation of new business opportunities and the impact on society. Additionally, the Institute considers laws, systems, education, support for children and the elderly and other areas of welfare. Research is conducted with specialists at universities, research institutes and other organizations with free, independent research capabilities of a high standard. Results are shared with society through research papers, publications and symposia. Specific research areas are:

Positive Aspects of Mobile in the World
We aim to identify and clarify positive influences of mobile phone technology and services in various countries.

Simulation of Traffic Safety in Mobile Use
Study through simulation the danger of mobile phone usage whilst walking, cycling and driving.

Comparison of General Outlook for Mobile Societies in China and Japan (Global Questionnaire)
Identify both unique and common cultural characteristics for both countries that impact on mobile societies.

Lifestyle Disease and Mobile Life
With the stress of modern society, mobile phone is seen as necessary. With help from a psychologist we survey groups in relation to mobile phone dependence syndrome.

A Role of Mobile Phone in Welfare of Aged and Handicapped People
We seek the image of a 'universal mobile phone' provided to anyone regardless of age or handicap. In this context the telephone includes network service, application and content, as well as the handset.

E-waste and Sustainable Society
A previous survey found e-waste problems in the U.S., Italy and Korea. The next phase is to clarify the factors or causes of e-waste with users, handset vendors, mobile operators and recycling factories in search of possible solutions.

Research on The Social Impact of RFID Tag in the Human Body
The U.S. and Europe have introduced implant RFID tags. We research the social background, the psychological effect and intention of service providers.

Improving Children's Literacy and the Nature of Social Support
We investigate the growing problems of the mobile society involving children.

The ITS traditionally joins with Partner Organizations to hold cooperative regional events. Such cooperation provides additional forums through which ITS Members can present and discuss issues their ideas. Member benefits from cooperation include lower fees. Promoting these conferences is in keeping with ITS objectives.

Luxembourg

Luxexpo organized the 2006 Med-e-Tel Conference on E-health, April 5–7 in Luxemburg. Other international organizations participating in this prestigious conference include: the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), the International Society for Telemedicine & eHealth (ISfTeH), the European Health Telematics Association and the World Health Organization (WHO). Lucy Firth (University of Melbourne), then ITS Vice Chair, arranged the inclusion of sessions concerned with e-health, ICT industry and e-health issues, and ICT policy. The event focused on a wide range of medical ICT applications and on the convergence of ICT with medical applications that lead to higher quality health and social care outcomes, widespread availability and accessibility of healthcare services, cost reductions and workflow efficiency. The program brought together speakers and panelists from around the world and featured 130 presentations from more than 40 countries. Conference highlights included a Symposium on 'Global Healthcare Challenges and Opportunities: The Role of Advanced Technology', workshops on 'Improving Connectivity with Remote Areas for Equitable Access to Health Services', 'Knowledge Sharing and Decision Support for Healthcare Professionals' and extensive focus on 'Homecare and Health/Disease Management'. Other issues considered included, 'International Telemedicine & eHealth Initiatives and Developments', 'eHealth in Developing Countries: The Future of Healthcare', 'Space Technology Applications for eHealth in Isolated and Remote Areas' and 'International Initiative for Ubiquitous Healthcare (u-Health)'. Med-e-Tel 2007 is scheduled for April 18–20.

Arlington

The 34th Research Conference on Communication, Information, and Internet Policy, (Telecommunications Policy Research Conference—TPRC), was held September 29–October 1, 2006 at the George Mason University School of Law in Arlington, Virginia. The Conference attracted more than 300 researchers, managers, and policy-makers from around the world representing the disciplines of economics, engineering, law, communications, computer science and political science. For the first time, the call for papers was distributed to the ITS-listserv, the ITS mailing list, and a higher number of overseas abstracts than usual was submitted to TPRC. Perhaps this was due to the ITS internationalized mailing list! Accordingly, the conference provided a dynamic environment within which to network and explore current issues of communications policy. More than 110 papers addressed a broad spectrum of current and emerging issues in five distinct areas: network competition; network regulation and Internet policy; spectrum policy and wireless applications; societal issues such as universal service, affordability, and ICT for development and growth; as well as media content and intellectual property rights issues. Several Panel Discussions provided stimulating debate on the relationship between antitrust and regulation, the ongoing European Communications Review, municipal wireless networks, and peer production (based on Y. Benkler's recent book *The Wealth of Networks*). The Program Committee made a concerted effort to solicit contributions from outside North America. Consequently, the Program had a strong international orientation, reflecting the ubiquitous nature of many current policy issues. As responses to these issues differ across nations, the Conference provided an ideal forum to discuss alternative solutions and their impact. Among the highlights of the conference were discussions of Network Neutrality, Spectrum Policy, Broadband Diffusion, Media Consolidation, Information Security, Societal Effect of ICT, and a real-time experiment on Modeling Access to Spectrum Commons. A student paper competition attracted interesting submissions from young researchers. Selected papers from the conference will be published in *Telecommunications Policy*. All papers are available for download at www.tprc.org, which also hosts the archive of papers from previous conferences. The 35th Telecommunications Policy Research Conference will be held October 5–7, 2007. A Call for Papers will be available late 2006 and paper submissions (abstracts and full papers) are due March 31, 2007. For more information and updates please visit www.tprc.org.

Spotlight on Sponsors (cont'd)

Mobile Disaster Prevention and M-Government
The Institute conducts international joint research, with policy suggestion, in such areas as emergency communications, disaster prevention training, developing mobile disaster prevention applications and early warning systems.

The Mobile Workstyle/Workplace and Business Trends
We conduct experiments, trend quantitative analysis and case studies to research increasing stress in business as the spread of mobile communications becomes more personalized.

DoCoMo's Membership in ITS

DoCoMo joined the Society to allow its researchers exposure to the latest trends in telecommunications research. As a Global Corporate Member DoCoMo has access to all ITS Biennial and Regional Conferences, *Communications & Strategies* and direct contact with telecommunications experts from around the world. Learning from the experiences of others, and sharing ones ideas and research outcomes creates valuable information exchange for our ongoing research program. The Institute welcomes a wide range of proposals and views concerning its research into the mobile society.

New ITS Global Sponsor and Board Members

The ITS is pleased to announce the election of Professor Hitoshi Mitomo to the Board of Directors (elected April 2006). Dr. Mitomo is Professor of Telecommunications Economics at GITS, Waseda University, Tokyo, and a Guest Research Officer at the Institute for Posts and Telecommunications Policy in Japan. Hitoshi's current research focuses on externalities and pricing of telecommunications. Professor Mitomo is also interested in the social consequences of ICT. Hitoshi is Co-Founder of AFT a voluntary consortium for developing ICT business opportunities. Hitoshi Mitomo graduated from Yokohama National University with a BA in Management Science. Dr. Mitomo received a MS in Environment Science from the University of Tsukuba and a Doctorate in Engineering from Toyohashi University of Technology.

Also elected to the Board of Directors in July 2006 is Mr. Christian (Chris) Dippon. Mr. Dippon is a Vice President at NERA Economic Consulting Communications and Intellectual Property Practices, San Francisco. Chris specializes in the economics, business and regulation of the communications and high-tech industries, and the evaluation of economic damages in intellectual property and commercial litigation disputes. Mr. Dippon frequently gives lecturers on communications and high-tech issues and on the application of rigorous economic techniques in regulatory and litigation disputes. Prior to joining NERA Economic Consulting Mr. Dippon was an analyst at BMW in Bangkok, Thailand. Mr. Dippon is bilingual German-English, fluent in French, and proficient in Thai and Spanish.

At the time of going to press, Dr. Aniruddha (Andy) Banerjee has been re-elected to the Board as the Analysis Group representative. ITS is delighted to welcome Analysis Group, Inc. as the newest ITS Global Corporate sponsor. Analysis Group was founded in 1981 and now employs over 300 professional staff in providing economic, financial, and business strategy consulting services to law firms, corporations and government agencies. Until this summer, Andy was the NERA Economic Consulting representative on the ITS Board. After having departed from NERA, Andy subsequently convinced the Analysis Group of the benefits from an ITS corporate association.

ITS is also pleased to announce the appointment to the Board of Directors (elected August 2006) of Dr Heikki Hämmäinen, Professor, Networking Business, Networking Laboratory, Helsinki University of Technology. Dr Hämmäinen's research interests include the techno-economics of mobile and wireless networks, technology adoption, regulatory aspects of mobile services and mobile operator business games. Project involvement include: IRoNet a laboratory-wide effort to produce a new generation of IP router networks; LEAD a national project to improve the understanding of market dynamics in the mobile data market; and ECOSYS a project to develop a strategic techno-economic analysis framework for the fixed and mobile communications industry/market to provide strategic information to support industry decision-making activity.

Since the last Interconnect, several ITS Directors have been re-elected for another six year term: James Alleman, Loretta Anania, Erik Bohlin, Hidenori Fuke, Gary Madden, Juergen Mueller and Xu Yan.

ITS Board Committees
November 2006

Conferences and Seminars
Teodosio Pérez Amaral (Chair)
Jim Alleman, Hidenori Fuke, Yves Gassot, Vianney Hennes, Hitoshi Mitomo, Karl-Heinz Neumann, Glenn Woroch, Xu Yan, Chang-Ho Yoon

Finance
Leland Schmidt (Chair)
Chris Dippon, Heikki Hämmäinen, Patricia Longstaff, Juergen Mueller, Ernst-Olav Ruhle, Harumichi Yanagisawa

Marketing and Promotions
Andrea Kavanaugh, Patricia Longstaff (Co-Chairs)
Lucy Firth, Stanford Levin, Stephen Schmidt

Membership and Nominations
Stanford Levin (Chair)
Jim Alleman, Ernst-Olav Ruhle, João Confraria Silva, Susan Simon, Chang-Ho Yoon

Publications
Gary Madden (Chair)
Aniruddha Banerjee, Johannes Bauer, Teodosio Pérez Amaral, Brigitte Preissl, Xu Yan, Glenn Woroch

Strategic Planning
Xu Yan (Chair)
Loretta Anania, Johannes Bauer, T. Ayhan Beydogan, Ting Jie Lu, Ernst-Olav Ruhle, Masatsugu Tsuji

Web Development
Stephen Schmidt (Chair)
Johannes Bauer, Lucy Firth, Andrea Kavanaugh

Note: The Chair and Vice-Chair are ex-officio members of ITS Committees. Respective Committee Chairs need to inform ex-officio members collectively of any significant Committee activity.

Member Publications

ITS Member Publications

Telecommunications Markets in Central and South Eastern Europe, ed. Jörg Kittl, Ewald Lichtenberger, Ernst-Olav Ruhle and Claudia Schlipp. EUL-Verlag, Lohmar–Köln

Access Pricing: Theory and Practice, ed. Justus Haucap and Ralf Dewenter. Elsevier, Cheltenham

Communications—The Next Decade: Markets, Technology, Regulation and Public Policy, ed. Tom Kiedrowski, Ed Richards and Robin Foster. The Stationery Office, London. Available after 30 November from:
http://www.ofcom.org.uk

Mobile Virtual Network Operators: Blessing or Curse?, Christian Dippon and Aniruddha Banerjee. NERA Economic Consulting, Boston

ITU World Information Society Report 2006, Strategy and Policy Unit, International Telecommunication Union, Geneva. Available from:
http://www.itu.int/wisr

Governance of Communication Networks: Connecting Societies and Markets with IT, ed. Brigitte Preissl and Jürgen Müller, based on papers from the ITS 15th Biennial Conference, Berlin, September 5–7, 2004. Physica-Verlag, Heidelberg

The Economics of Online Markets and ICT Networks, Contributions to Economics Series, ed. Russel Cooper, Gary Madden, Ashley Lloyd and Michael Schipp, based on papers from the ITS Africa-Asia-Australasia Regional Conference, Perth, August 28–30, 2005. Physica-Verlag, Heidelberg

Special Journal Issues

Info (2006) 'How Free is the Radio Spectrum?' ed. Erik Bohlin, Arnd Weber, and Brigitte Preissl, based on papers from the ITS 15th Biennial Conference, Berlin, September 5–7, 2004. Vol 8 (2)

The Information Society (2006) 'Towards a Coherent Metrology of Information Societies', Introduction and overview 'A 'Grand Challenge': Measuring Information Societies' by Michel J. Menou and Richard D. Taylor. Vol 22 (5)

Telecommunications Policy (2006) 'Mobile Futures', ed. Brigitte Preissl, Ulrich Stumpf and Gary Madden, based on papers from the ITS 15th Biennial Conference, Berlin, September 5–7, 2004. Vol 30 (7)

Telecommunications Policy (2007) 'Mobile Telephony, Regulation and Digital Divide Issues' ed. Gary Madden and Michael Schipp, forthcoming, based on papers from the ITS Africa-Asia-Australasia Regional Conference, Perth, August 28-30

Forthcoming issues of Communications & Strategies

No. 63, 3rd quarter 2006—Bundling Competition in ICT Industries

No. 64, 4th quarter 2006—Reviewing the Review

Calls for contributions:

Web 2.0: The Internet as a Digital Common
Editors: Michel Gensollen and Vincent Bonneau

The Payment Industry: Facing New Challenges
Editors: Marc Bourreau and David Bounie