

CALL FOR PROPOSALS FOCUS AND SPECIAL SESSIONS

The IEEE Microwave Theory and Techniques Society's (MTT-S) 2018 International Microwave Symposium (IMS2018) will be held 10 – 15 June 2018 at the Pennsylvania Convention Center in Philadelphia, USA. IMS2018 is the centerpiece of the Microwave Week 2018, which offers technical sessions, interactive forums, plenary and panel sessions, workshops, short courses, application seminars, and industrial and historical exhibits. In addition, a wide variety of other technical and social networking activities including guest programs are offered. Microwave Week 2018 will also host for the first time the 2018 IMBioC conference (www.imbioc-ieee.org), in addition to the RFIC Symposium (www.rfic-ieee.org) and the ARFTG Conference (www.arftg.org).

Focus and Special Sessions are an integral part of the IMS2018 technical program. Proposals are invited for Focus and Special Sessions on topics in RF/microwave areas that are of high interest to the microwave community. These may include topics related to the IMS2018 theme, "Microwaves, Medicine, and Mobility", which highlights the contributions of RF, microwaves, and millimeter-waves to the fields of medicine and telecommunications.

Focus Session proposals should highlight emerging new technical topics that are gaining importance and are of high interest to the microwave community. Focus Sessions encompass a wide range of topics, and may either involve a specific emerging technology or cover several technologies that are relevant to a common application. Examples of emerging technologies that are of interest include, but are not limited to:

- Convergence of RF and digital techniques at the IC level
- Novel applications by additive manufacturing
- Emerging applications of THz
- Massive MIMO for 5G wireless communications
- Internet of Things (IoT) and Internet of Space (IoS)
- RF technologies for smart vehicles and drones
- Smart cities and smart environment
- Bio-electromagnetics
- Characterization techniques for nano- and biotechnology
- Advances in MRI and other imaging techniques
- Next frontiers of personal connectivity
- RF devices and systems for diagnostics and treatment applications
- Non-contact, wearable, and implantable health monitoring
- Advances in simultaneous wireless information and power transfer

Special Session proposals should recognize events of historical significance to the microwave community, or highlight the technical achievements in a specific technical area, application space, or geographical region of the world. IMS2018 shall accept Special Session proposals only for technical topics. Please note that the technical topic may be named after a famous individual, e.g., Doherty. Special Session proposals commemorating deceased individuals shall be directed to the Memorials Committee of the MTT-S Administrative Committee (Adcom). These proposals will not be accepted or reviewed by the IMS2018 Technical Program Committee. Also, IMS2018 will NOT accept proposals commemorating individuals who are alive.

Examples of Special Sessions topics include:

- Anniversary of a major invention or milestone
- Microwaves for humanitarian activities
- Microwave activities in a geographical region
- Pioneers and history of RF/microwave in medicine
- Evolution or challenges of a specific technology
- Technology advancement of special multi-disciplinary technologies

Focus and Special Session Proposal Submission: If interested in submitting a Focus or Special Session proposal, please see the detailed Focus and Special Session Proposal Submission Instructions posted at www.ims2018.org.

The Proposal Submission Deadline is 5:00 PM MDT (UTC – 6:00) on 15 September 2017 (Friday). Decisions and notifications of proposal acceptance will be made by mid-November 2017. Additional instructions on paper submissions will be provided to the organizers and speakers of accepted proposals at that time.

Organizers of accepted proposals should instruct their speakers to submit their papers by the IMS paper submission deadline (5 December 2017), and to select the Focused Session or Special Session (as applicable) category during submission. There are no exceptions to IMS paper submission deadlines, for the Focus and Special Session papers.

Contact Information: Please submit suggestions or questions (not proposals) to IMS2018focussessions@gmail.com; IMS2018specialsessions@gmail.com.

Focus and Special Session Co-Chairs: Dominique Schreurs and Aly Fathy