Message from Graduate Forum Co-chairs

The Graduate Forum of the 15th International Conference on Communication Systems and Networks (COMSNETS) provides an opportunity to graduate students in an early research career to present and showcase their research ideas complemented with initial results and obtain detailed feedback from the senior researchers in both academia and industry. Owing to safety concerns and statutory restrictions preventing travel and gatherings, the presentations at COMSNETS 2023 Graduate Forum will be held in a hybrid mode.

The senior researchers and mentors always emphasize that attending good research conferences that overlap with the student's research areas significantly benefits their careers. COMSNETS 2023, being one of the highly reputed conferences in the communication systems and networking domain, gives an opportunity by organizing Graduate Forum for students in a graduate research program to receive not only detailed feedback and suggestions on their research work but also provide equal opportunity to network with senior researchers and other peers at large. Graduate Forum encourages students to actively participate in the conference and keep themselves updated with state-of-the-art cutting-edge research by attending different parallel sessions.

Graduate Forum this year considered three pages of extended abstract format for review, which helped the students present and pitch their ideas comprehensively. This year's Graduate Forum accepted **12 high-quality papers (60% acceptance rate)** covering various exciting topics, including 5G, mobile sensing, network security, applied machine learning, and wireless communication and networking. Each presentation is scheduled for **5 minutes lightning talk, followed by 2 minutes for Q&A** and feedback from the judges and the audience. Based on the evaluation by two judges and the review scores, "Best Graduate Forum Paper" and "Best Graduate Forum Paper Runners-up" awards are given to motivate the winners. This year, the award will be given in memory of Himanshu Gandhi, an IIT Delhi Ph.D. student with exemplary knowledge, confidence, determination, hard work, and selfless service who made tireless contributions to the COMSNETS community. As in the previous editions of the Graduate Forum, this year, all accepted papers will be published as conference proceedings and available through IEEE Xplore digital library unless the authors choose otherwise. This year we also have an interactive session with Professor Jogesh Muppala from HKUST. He will deliver a talk on "Agile Research" followed by interacting with the participants. We hope this will be beneficial for all students.

As co-chairs of Graduate Forum 2023, we sincerely thank all the program committee members for their time and expert volunteer service despite their busy schedules to provide detailed feedback to the authors. In addition, we are also grateful to external reviewers who extended their support in the review process and helped us to provide feedback on time to the authors. Their service is truly appreciated. We would also like to thank the conference General chairs, TPC co-chairs, Steering committee, and Publications chairs for their support and guidance. It was indeed a wonderful experience co-hosting the Graduate Forum of COMSNETS 2023.

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