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Distinguished Lecturer Tour of Norman C. Beaulieu in Skopje, Florence, Podgorica, and Belgrade in March 2014

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The idea for Prof. Norman Beaulieu's DL Tour was raised during the Globecom 2013 conference in December 2013 in Atlanta, when Prof. Beaulieu and Prof. Zoran Hadzi-Velkov, the Chair of the R. Macedonia ComSoc Chapter, first discussed it. The Distinguished Lecturer Tour was organized at the beginning of 2014 to include four different European countries: Republic of Macedonia, Italy, Montenegro, and Serbia.

Prof. Beaulieu started his DL tour in Skopje, with a visit to the R. Macedonia ComSoc Chapter between 1 and 4 March, 2014. On 3 March, 2014 he gave two lectures that took place at the Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Information Technologies (FEIT), Ss. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje. The first lecture, entitled "Generalized models for fading with diffuse scatter plus line-of-sight components", was well attended by people from academia and the ICT industry in Macedonia. The second lecture, entitled "How to write an IEEE paper", actually was an interactive Q/A session for the EE students, where Prof. Beaulieu explained the art of writing high quality papers based on his vast and highly successful research experience and being the former Editor in Chief of *IEEE Transactions on Communications*.

The Italian Lecture took place in Florence, on 6 March, 2014 (Thursday) at Santa Marta, University of Florence, between 5 pm and 7 pm. Prof. Fantacci introduced the Lecture, thanking Prof. Beaulieu and the IEEE Chapter for the opportunity, and describing the activities of the research units in the Department of Information Engineering. Then Prof. Beaulieu started his Lecture, "Generalized models for fading with diffuse scatter plus line-of-sight components". First he explained how new wireless applications lead to the need for new channel models. In particular, he considered a scenario where more than one specular wave are present. He highlighted the need for a new model to find a physical and mathematical representation, rather than a mere good fit of experimental data, which can be obtained by increasing the distribution parameterization. He proposed three models to describe different propagation conditions, considering both the presence and the absence of line of sight component.

Many members of the Department of Information Engineering attended the lecture, as well as graduate and under-



Prof. Beaulieu explaining the geography of Canada.



Prof. Beaulieu and the Chair of R. Macedonia ComSoc Chapter on an evening tour around the capital Skopje.

graduated students. It was an excellent opportunity for debating many interesting ideas and different points of views with the presence of an international expert in communication systems.

Finally, Prof. Beaulieu visited both Montenegro and Serbia. He gave a lecture in Podgorica, Montenegro, on 10 March, 2014, and a lecture in Belgrade, Serbia, on 12 March, 2014. The lecture in Podgorica was organized by the Faculty of Electrical Engineering and its Centre for Telecommunications. Prof. Beaulieu gave his lecture and explained his main research activities. All members of the Centre for Telecommunications as well as other faculty staff attended the lecture. Also, undergraduate, master's and some Ph.D. students were present. The lecture was very interactive with interesting debate and participants' questions. Some of the Ph.D. students used this opportunity to discuss with Prof. Beaulieu issues related to their particular research topics in the area of wireless communications.

The organizers of the lecture in Belgrade were the IEEE Serbia & Montenegro COM Chapter, Telecommunications Society Belgrade, and the ETF-School of Electrical Engineering, University of Belgrade. The invitations were sent to all IEEE ComSoc members, including student members, as well specifically to several target groups: radio engineers employed in state telecommunications agencies; radio engineers employed by all three mobile operators in Serbia; and students (both non IEEE and IEEE) in the fourth and fifth years of the ETF-Department of Telecommunications. The lecture was well attended, with around 35 listeners. Prof. Beaulieu introduced an interesting personal approach, forcing those in the auditorium to actively participate by answering the lecturer's questions, and in some cases asking their own questions.