A warm welcome to the first edition of the IEEE Workshop on Fifth Generation Wireless: From Bits to Packets (5GB2P), 2016.

5GB2P serves as a venue to exchange ideas and share experiences among scientists, researchers, professionals, and developers from Academia and Industry. This year, we had the pleasure to have two keynote invited speakers and some of world top scientists to provide in plenary speeches, compact lectures that summarize experiences and future vision towards 5th Generation wireless communications networks and key technologies that are pivotal to such vision to be a reality.

We received ten submissions in response to the call. The call covered a wide spectrum of 5G key topics and the success and exploitation of the workshop was demonstrated via submissions from almost all continents: Central, East, and West Europe, Central, Northern, South and South-eastern Asia, North America, and the Middle East. The acceptance rate was 50%, insuring high quality works to be accepted, and a wide coverage of topics that spans between different layers of the communications protocol stack and several key technologies, starting from non-synchronous, 5G waveforms to key technologies like network coding, full duplex, small cell, densification, HetNets, and 5G IoT. Additionally, the geographical coverage of the papers acceptance is 60% coverage from different countries and 30% coverage from different continents.

This event would not have been possible without the hard work, determination, and enthusiasm of several colleagues. First and foremost, we would like to thank the TPC chairs and members, for their invaluable efforts in reviewing all the papers submitted to 5GB2P 2016, the invaluable help and continuous support received, from the conference chairs, and the strategic look and positive communications from the steering committee.

We wholeheartedly welcome the integration of the 10th edition of the Autonomic and Opportunistic Communications, AOC to 5GB2P workshop in a special session in opportunistic communications, with three additional papers to the workshop program, making a total of 17 submissions, and 47% acceptance rate. A demonstration of positive joint cooperation between scientific peers to allow the success and continuity of forums that are of fundamental strategic importance to all involved.

5GB2P workshop co-chairs again gratefully acknowledge the keynote speakers, Prof. Muriel Medard from MIT and Prof. Angel Lozano from UPF for kindly accepting the invitation. Their existence assured that 5GB2P, in its first edition, as a venue, to be a forum that hosts high quality contributions and a significant meeting point of high scientific weight.

Finally, we would like to thank all the authors who submitted their papers to 5GB2P workshop, 2016 for their contributions.