

USNC-URSI Executive Council Meeting Minutes

January 11, 2014

Millennium Harvest House Hotel, Century Room

Boulder, Colorado

1) Call to Order and Introductions (Steve Reising)

Steve Reising, the Chair of USNC-URSI, called the meeting to order at 7:00 a.m. The Members of USNC that were present at the Business Meeting were:

USNC Officers

Steven Reising (Chair)

Yahya Rahmat-Samii (Immediate Past Chair)

David R. Jackson (Secretary and Chair-Elect)

National Academies Staff (non-voting)

Ana Ferreras

Commission Chairs/Vice Chairs

Chris Holloway (Commission A Chair)

Sembiam Rengarajan (Commission B Chair)

Greg Huff (Commission C Vice-Chair)

Everett Farr (Commission E Chair)

V. Chandrasekar (Commission F Chair)

Frank Lind (Commission G Chair)

Anatoly Streltsov (Commission H Vice-Chair)

Rich Bradley (Commission J Chair)

Erdem Topsakal (Commission K Chair)

U. S. Officers of URSI (non-voting)

Ross Stone (Assistant Secretary General - Publications)

George Uslenghi (Vice President of URSI)

2) It was noted that Andy Clegg has left NSF.

- He was the NSF Government Liaison. (A replacement will have to be made.)

3) Suggestion from Anatoly Streltsov

- Have government representatives come to the USNC meeting to give reports.

4) Report on the 2014 URSI GASS (George Uslenghi)

- USNC will be supporting the Third International URSI Student Paper Competition at the 2014 URSI GASS in Beijing, China. There will be a total of \$5k in prizes.
- There will be travel support for Young Scientists.
- There are two new URSI meetings in alternating years when no GASS is held, i.e. AT-RASC in the Atlantic region and AP-RASC, in the Pacific region. Bo Yu will run the websites for these conferences.
- Commission Chairs should present candidates for Vice-Chair of their respective URSI Commissions. They should also try to attend the 2014 URSI GASS in Beijing.
- The chairs of the URSI National Committees nominate candidates for URSI President and for the four URSI Vice Presidents.
- George Uslenghi is interested in running for URSI President. Should we also suggest Umran Inan, Past URSI Vice-President?
- The Executive Council endorses George Uslenghi for President, but this will require a vote by the USNC-URSI since we do not have a quorum to vote at the Executive Council.

5) Report on Other URSI Business (George Uslenghi)

- The URSI Radio Science Bulletin should be sent to all of the USNC-URSI Commission Chairs.
- We should put the URSI President's message in the Radio Science Bulletin.

6) Attendance at the Business Meetings and New Member Information

Attendance at the Commission business meetings, and the number of new members from each Commission, was reviewed.

7) Plenary Session for 2016 NRSM

The following suggestions were made for the theme of the plenary talks:

- ◇ RF Systems and Components for Radar (CDF)
- ◇ ALMA (BJ)
- ◇ Telemedicine (BK)
- ◇ A theme from Commissions G and H (TBD)

8) Erdem Topsakal is appointed to replace Danilo Erricolo as the chair of the Student Paper Competition and Student Travel Awards.

- 9) **The dates for the 2016 NRSM will be Wednesday, Jan. 6 to Saturday, Jan. 9. We should indicate on the website as soon as it is known if we will need Saturday, Jan. 9 as a conference day.**

10) **Suggestions and Discussion Items**

Suggestions for the NRSM

- Put a “special” designation in the NRSM Final Program to indicate those sessions that are special sessions (or perhaps have an extra page listing them).
- Give out flash drives instead of CDs at the NRSM?
- Have more seats available at the NRSM student lunch.
- Have the NRSM conference registration linked to the papers being submitted. In other words, require attendees to register in advance to keep their papers in the final program.
- Have the schedule of the sessions at the NRSM available earlier on the website, e.g., by Thanksgiving.
- Increase the mailing list for the NRSM Call for Papers each year to increase attendance. We should send the CFP to the Commission membership lists.
- Have name badges at the NRSM printed with larger names on both sides. This would be helpful.

Other suggestions

- Have a uniform nomination process for new members of the Commissions.
- Update the Commission membership lists. Have the lists maintained by the National Academies?
- People who work in the area of Commission D don’t seem to be very aware of URSI. What can we do to increase visibility?
- The USNC-URSI website needs to be updated to help attract new members.
- Is the journal Radio Science losing Commission B papers?
- Explore sources of new funding for USNC-URSI in the future.
- Consider having Fellows of the USNC-URSI. What are the pros and cons?
- We should revisit action items from the past.
- Should the NRSM always stay in Boulder? Ross Stone suggested that it could possibly move to San Diego.

11) **The meeting was adjourned.**