

Jan 2009 – URSI/USNC Commission A Minutes

Boulder, CO, USA

1. Welcome and Guests: *Attendance List* & Officers
2. The Chair reported on July 2008 AP-S/URSI Meeting:
 - Approved participation of Commission A in the AP-S/URSI meeting until 2012.
 - Elected a new member: Steven J. Weiss (Army Research Laboratory)
 - 4 URSI A sessions were held:
 - a. Surface Propagation and Scattering (AP-S/URSI A)
 - b. Antenna Measurements and Calibration (AP-S/URSI A)
 - c. Material Characterization (URSI A)
 - d. Measurement of Metamaterial Enhanced Antennas (URSI A)
 - Attendees: 8 Members: Ozlem Kilic (Chair), Carl E. Baum, W. Ross Stone, Bill Davis, Ron J. Pogorzelski, Amir I. Zaghloul, Chris Holloway, Yahya Rahmat-Sami, 1 guest: Charles T. Mo
3. The chair reported on the January 4, 2009 USNC meeting discussions:
 - The General Assembly in Chicago was successfully held.
 - a. USNC had to sponsor about \$250,000 to make up for lower registration than expected (1200 vs 1500)
 - b. USNC held a student paper competition for the first time in GA, and it was very successful.
 - Next General Assembly will be held in Istanbul, Turkey, August 13-20, 2011. USNC will propose to sponsor the student paper competition there as well.
 - This year some changes are introduced in the conference.
 - a. 3 day meeting instead of 4 days.
 - b. Lunch boxes are offered for purchase. This has been popular. However, the requirement to preorder may not have been very convenient to all. It was also pointed out that including the lunch as part of the registration has been inconvenient for government employees for their reimbursement. It was suggested to separate these payments in future. Another recommendation was to list the on campus facilities that will be open for lunch on the web-site.
 - c. Luncheon will be offered to student participants and USNC officers after the plenary session on Wednesday.
 - d. It was suggested to consider holding the Commission Business meetings at lunch time to avoid conflicts with any late sessions.
 - US scientists have been elected to the following positions at the GA:
 - a. Umran Inan – VP
 - b. William Davis – Commission A Vice Chair
 - c. Roger Lang – Commission F Vice Chair
 - d. John D. Mathews – Commission G Vice Chair
 - e. Donald Backer – Commission J Vice Chair
 - There was a discussion on the different start times of the sessions this year. It was unanimously agreed that all sessions should start at the same time.
 - The possibility of offering lunch at business meetings to increase attendance was discussed. Each commission has the liberty to decide on this, they have some funds that can be tapped into for such a purpose.
4. Reviewed upcoming meetings
 - 2009 – Charleston, May 31-June 5
 - 2010 – Toronto, July 10-17
 - 2011 – Spokane, July 3-7

- 2012 – Chicago, July 8-13
 - 2013 – proposed in Orlando
 - 2014 – proposed in Memphis
 - 2010 NRSM meeting, January 6-9 in Boulder, CO
5. The following action items of the USNC meeting was discussed:
 - 3 day meeting instead of 4 days. The members were in agreement that this was a good format as long as it does not have a negative impact on the organization of the sessions; i.e. avoiding unnecessary parallel sessions.
 - Nominations for government representative positions: Steven Weiss and Chris Holloway accepted to be nominated.
 - Identification of special sessions for the 2010 meeting: Possibility of the following were discussed:
 - a. Ongoing research activities at NIST in electromagnetic metrology
 - b. Calibration techniques for environmental remote sensing measurements (Joint with F, possibility was discussed with Roger Lang, past chair)
 - c. Near Field/Far Field transformations and measurements (Joint with B, more feedback will be received from Yahya Rahmat-Sami, Ross Stone and Ron J. Pogorezelski)
 - Nominations for member at large: six positions will be filled by vote. NIST will be contacted for possible names. Candidates are required to submit a half page bio.
 - The limitation on the number of co-authors for student paper competition: There are concerns about too many authors providing advisory role for student papers. Currently there is no limit on the number of co-authors. However, all co-authors are required to submit a letter stating their role was advisory only. Imposing a limit was favored by some members but not strongly. There was a suggestion of requiring the student to be the only author. The discussion was left for another time on this recommendation.
 - Imposing a limit on the number of times a student can receive travel grant for the conference: The members were all in favor of limiting the number of awards to two per student.
 - Secretary positions to be filled by all commissions: Mike Janezic agreed to be considered for the position. The secretary will help update the membership list and help with recruiting.
 6. Discussed increasing the membership and possible sources of recruiting. Attracting students as student affiliates was suggested. They will be part of the membership list and will receive commission related e-mails until they are eligible for associate or full membership.
 7. Old Business – None
 8. New Business – None
 9. Adjourn
 10. Attendees: Total 13.
 - 9 Members: Ozlem Kilic, Bill Davis, Ron J. Pogorezelski, Yahya Rahmat-Sami, Steven Weiss, Carl E. Baum, Michael Janezic, Ross Stone, Chris Holloway.
 - 4 guests: Taeyoung Yang (VA Tech), Nevin Altinyurt (Georgia Tech), Brandon Good (Catholic University), Roger Lang (George Washington University).