



International Union of Radio Science U.S. Commission B

Please reply to:

D. R. Wilton, Chair
P. L. E. Uslenghi, Vice-Chair
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MINUTES Commission B Business meeting
National Radio Science Meeting
Boulder, CO
January 7, 1998

1. The meeting was called to order by the Chair, D. Wilton, at 17:05 hours. A list of the members in attendance is provided at the end of these minutes.
2. Guests were welcomed and individually introduced by the members in attendance. A list of guests is provided at the end of these minutes.
3. The minutes from the Commission B Business meeting of July 14, 1997 were approved. That meeting was held at the Queen Elizabeth Hotel in Montreal during the URSI / AP-S Symposium.

4. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- a) R. Pogorzelski presented the report of the Membership Committee. (Ron assumes the role as chair of the committee from G. Brown, who has become Secretary of USNC.)
 - There were no new nominations for membership.
 - There is a revised version of the membership nomination form. It is available from R. Pogorzelski (pogo@jpl.nasa.gov) electronically as an MS Word file. Completed nomination forms should be returned to Pogorzelski as well.
 - There was some discussion that USNC may develop a uniform membership nomination form. If this were done, it is not clear whether various commissions of USNC could continue to use their own individualized forms. The consensus was that we would continue to use our own form until told otherwise.

b) R. Ziolkowski presented the report of the Technical Activities Committee (TAC). This committee consists of R. Ziolkowski (Chair), A. Cangellaris, D. Jaggard, J. Williams, and R. Pogorzelski.

- At the present meeting (Boulder '98) there were seven Commission B sessions, with a total of 51 papers. Also, there was one joint session with Commission F, having six papers. In addition, there was also a special session organized by P. L. E. Uslenghi on "Recent Developments in Scattering". It was noted that Commission B papers are down somewhat from typical numbers at the Boulder meeting. It was noted that at the last Boulder meeting several special sessions of all-invited papers were held, which increased the number of papers. This is being looked into for the next Boulder meeting. Please forward suggestions for special session topics to R. Ziolkowski.
- Seven URSI special sessions have been planned for the 1998 URSI / AP-S meeting. Sessions planned and their organizers are listed below.

Novel Trends in Theoretical Electromagnetics (joint with AP-S) (N. Engheta)

Partitioning in Electromagnetics (joint with AP-S) (A. Ruehli and A. Cangellaris)

Inverse Problems (R. McGahon and R. Kleinman)

MEMS (joint with Commissions B and D, and with AP-S) (P. L. E. Uslenghi)

Photonic Bandgap Materials (joint with Commissions B and D) (D. Yang)

In Honor of R. Collin (joint with AP-S) (Y. Besieris and M. Sancer)

In Honor of T. Senior (joint with AP-S) (J. Volakis)

- Suggestions for special session topics for the 1999 URSI / AP-S meeting (in Orlando) should be forwarded to R. Ziolkowski.
 - There was a discussion of the required format for submitting papers to one of the special sessions at the 1998 URSI / AP-S meeting that are joint with AP-S. For the joint sessions in previous years, URSI abstracts were published in the URSI abstracts booklet, and AP-S summaries were published in the AP-S digest. This year, the contributors to the joint sessions have been instructed by the conference organizers to submit both an abstract and a summary. The consensus of the discussion was that this requirement is in disagreement with AP-S ADCOM and USNC policies, and should be strongly discouraged.
5. The statistics from the 1997 URSI / AP-S meeting in Montreal and the present 1998 National Radio Science Meeting in Boulder were reviewed. It was noted that over 50% of the abstracts at the present Boulder meeting were submitted electronically.

6. The winners of the student paper contest held at the present Boulder meeting were announced. The first place prize went to Stephen C. Reising, the second place prize went to Charles Moses (advisor, N. Engheta) , and the third place prize went to Robert Hoferer (advisor, Y. Rahmat-Samii). Both the second and third place winners were Commission B papers.
7. The locations and dates of future URSI meetings were presented. Meetings of particular interest are listed below in chronological order. Additional information can be found in the IEEE AP-S Magazine.

URSI EM Theory Symposium, Thessaloniki, Greece, May 25-28, 1998

APS/URSI Symposium, Atlanta, June 22-26, 1998

Antennas and Propagation for Wireless Communications (joint with AP-S), Waltham, MA, Nov. 2-4, 1998

National Radio Science Meeting, Boulder, CO, Jan. 4-8, 1999

APS/URSI Symposium, Orlando, July 11-16, 1999

XXVI URSI General Assembly, Toronto, Aug. 13-21, 1999

APS/URSI Symposium, Salt Lake City, June 25-July 1, 2000

APS/URSI Symposium, Boston, July 8-13, 2001

URSI EM Theory Symposium, Victoria, 2001

APS/URSI Symposium, San Antonio, June 16-21, 2002

8. Items from the USNC business meeting held earlier in the week were discussed:
 - a) The structuring of the national commissions of USNC has been reorganized. The national commissions are now directly under the National Academy of Science and Engineering. This should give the commissions more visibility and more direct contact with the Academy.
 - b) A concern was noted over the overlapping or conflicting times of commission business meetings in Boulder. One suggestion was to move the Commission B business meeting back to Saturday or Sunday. Another was to hold the meeting during the lunch hour. A straw poll indicated that the noon lunch meeting idea was a good choice, but it was suggested that other, smaller commissions first be asked to consider meeting during the lunch hour because of the difficulties of serving such a large group.
 - c) It was noted that for the 1999 National Radio Science Meeting in Boulder, the plenary session would consist of a set of reports from the various commissions rather than having invited speakers addressing a particular theme, as has been recent practice.
 - d) J. Matthews made a presentation at the USNC meeting on the resurgence of interest in meteor science. This area could impact several different Commissions, including B. Anyone with an interest in the subject should contact J. Matthews at Penn State.
 - e) USNC is interested in educational issues, and wants to become more involved in this area. USNC is particularly interested in promoting experimental technique, as opposed

to computer-based education. The suggestion was made for the next Boulder meeting to hold special sessions on experiments in Radio Science. USNC could also become more involved in putting together experiments that would be available to universities or secondary schools. R. Stone noted that descriptions of good experiments could also be published in the IEEE AP-S magazine.

9. The meeting was adjourned at 18:10 hours.

Guest Attendance List

Toccafondi Alberto (University of Siena, Italy), Danipo Erricopo (University of Illinois at Chicago), Giuliano Manara (University of Pisa, Italy), Ari Sihvola (Helsinki University of Technology).

Members and Associate Members in Attendance

C. E. Baum, A. W. Biggs, G. S. Brown, C. M. Butler, N. Engheta, D. A. Hill, G. Hyde, E. F. Kuester, R. H. Lang, D. M. Le Vine, K. Michalski, A. A. Oliner, R. J. Pogorzelski, Y. Rahmat-Samii, W. Ross Stone, P. L. E. Uslenghi, D. R. Wilton, R. W. Ziolkowski.

David R. Jackson

Secretary, U. S. URSI Commission B
January 16, 1998