

USNC-URSI Commission F Business Meeting

January 5, 2011
Boulder, Colorado

Minutes recorded by Steven C. Reising
Secretary, USNC-URSI

Welcome & Introductions

The meeting was called to order by Al Gasiewski at 5:02 pm. Steve Reising is substituting today for both V. Chandrasekar as Vice-Chair and Mike Newkirk as Secretary.

Sign-in list

Membership list update (Steve Reising for Mike Newkirk)

Approval of 2011 agenda:

1. Approval of 2010 minutes
2. USNC Officers for 2009-2011 Triennium
3. USNC Status
4. Announcements
5. Membership and New Officers for 2012-2014 Triennium
6. Past meetings
7. Present meeting
8. Future URSI & related meetings
9. Issues for discussion
10. New business
11. USNC action items
12. Adjourn

1. Approval of 2010 business meeting minutes (January 6, 2010, Boulder)

Forwarded by Mike Newkirk to USNC Commission F members on 12/17/10

2. USNC Officers for 2009-2011 and 2012-2014 Triennium

Commission F

- Al Gasiewski – Chair, USNC URSI Commission F
- V. Chandrasekar – Vice Chair, USNC URSI Commission F
- Mike Newkirk – Secretary, USNC URSI Commission F
- Saba Mudaliar – Membership Chair, USNC URSI Commission F
- Ray Wasky – Webmaster, USNC URSI Commission F

USNC 2009-2011

- George Uslenghi – Past Chair, USNC URSI
- Yahya Rahmat-Samii – Chair, USNC URSI
- Steve Reising – Secretary, USNC URSI
- Janet Stapleton – USNC Member-at-Large (nominated by Comm F)
- Member-at-Large – nominated by other Commissions, elected for 2009-2011 triennium:
 - Zoya Popovic
 - Gianluca Lazzi
 - David Jackson
 - David Woody
 - Steven Weiss

International URSI

- Umran Inan – Vice-President, International URSI
- Roger Lang – Vice Chair, International URSI Commission F
- Bill Davis – Vice Chair, International URSI Commission A
- John Matthews – Vice Chair, International URSI Commission G
- Franz Kaertner – Chair, International URSI Commission D

USNC 2012-2014

- Yahya Rahmat-Samii – Past Chair, USNC-URSI
- Steve Reising – Chair, USNC-URSI
- Secretary – Nominations are solicited and due to USNC by March 1.
 1. Clarification that candidates must have been voting (or are) members of USNC, including Commission Chairs, Society Representatives or Members-at-Large.
 2. Gary Brown suggested that we send an e-mail containing a list of eligible Commission F members.

Web site is <http://www.usnc-ursi.org> .

3. USNC Status

USNC finances: \$157 K positive as of 11/30/10. Budget detailed by Gary Brown, USNC Finance Officer

Gary Brown reports that USNC-URSI budget took a big hit on the URSI GA in Chicago in 2008. Therefore, USNC-URSI cannot provide travel funding to the URSI GASS in Istanbul in August 2011.

4. Announcements

In Memoriam – 2010

- Dr. Carl Baum
- Prof. Donald Backer
- Prof. Robert E. Collin
- Prof. Ray J. King
- Prof. Paul Kintner

A moment of silence to be observed during the Plenary Session on Thursday.

5. Membership and Officers for 2012-2014 Triennium

Officers for 2012-2014 Triennium

Commission F

- Al Gasiewski – Past Chair, USNC URSI Commission F
- V. Chandrasekar – Chair, USNC URSI Commission F (agreed to serve)
- Mike Newkirk – Vice-Chair, USNC URSI Commission F (agreed to serve)
- Saba Mudaliar – Membership Chair, USNC URSI Commission F
Saba is willing to serve as Secretary of USNC-URSI Commission F.
- Ray Wasky – Webmaster, USNC URSI Commission F

Election of new Commission F officers:

Secretary – candidates are:

- Saba Mudaliar (agreed to serve)
- Gary Brown nominated Kamal Sarabandi for election as Secretary of USNC-URSI Commission F.

Al Gasiewski made a statement on behalf of Saba Mudaliar, who could not attend. Gary Brown made a statement on behalf of Kamal Sarabandi.

Kamal Sarabandi was elected as the next Secretary of Commission F.

We would like to strongly encourage Saba Mudaliar to continue as Membership Chair for USNC-URSI Commission F. Al will write to Saba to ask him if he is willing to continue.

Election of new Commission F members – Al Gasiewski for Saba Mudaliar

There is one new candidate: Sanghun Lim (sponsored by V. Chandrasekar)

This candidate has no papers presented in URSI Commission F. Al will inform Chandra that the nominee needs to present a minimum of two papers in URSI Commission F before he can be a viable candidate for membership.

No candidates were elected.

6. Past Meetings

29th Triennial URSI General Assembly, August 7-16, 2008, Chicago, IL, USA

- Chair: George Uslenghi
- Abstracts: 1456 (~1/2 posters)
- Attendance: 1201 (262/80 students/US, 125/25 young scientists/US)
- Commission F Sessions: 9 (regular), 2 (joint), and 1 (tutorial)

2008 APS/URSI Meeting San Diego, CA, July 5-11, 2008

- Attendance: 1638 (337 URSI papers)
- Informal USNC Commission F business meeting only.
- \$27.5k URSI surplus

IGARSS 2008, Boston MA, July 6-11, 2008.

- Attendance: 1721. Informal USNC Commission F business meeting only.

USNC/URSI NRSM, January 3-6, 2008

- Attendance: 249
- Commission F: 5 organized special sessions (one joint with B), 37 papers

AGU 2009 Joint Assembly – May 24-17, 2009, Toronto, Canada

APS/URSI 2009, Charleston, SC, USA, May 31-June 6, 2009

- Total 1202 attendees
- Total 1274 papers submitted
- Total 1253 papers accepted (1037 oral, 216 poster)
- APS 943 papers accepted/presented
- USNC URSI 310 papers accepted/presented (24.7% of total)
- One URSI and seven joint AP-URSI sessions, 42% USA papers
- Commissions A,B,C,D,E,F,K participated.
- Informal USNC Commission F business meeting held.

Notes: AP-S submissions down significantly, USNC/URSI submissions show little change.

Total 1448 papers in original program, but many withdrawn or no-show (H1N1 fears, recession-related travel problems)

Surplus ~\$163k (URSI share to be ~\$30-35k)

APS/URSI 2010 - Toronto, Ontario, Canada, July 8-17, 2010.

- USNC Commission F participated, but no Commission F informal business meeting held. Not NARSM, but joint USNC-CNC/URSI meeting.
- Total 1292 attendees
- Total 1587 papers presented: 1172 APS, 415 URSI
- USNC URSI papers accepted/presented (26.5% of total)
- 52 countries (very good international participation)
- 25 exhibitors,
- Financial: ~\$30k anticipated to USNC, \$73k in sponsorships

IGARSS 2010, Honolulu, HI, July 25-30, 2010.

- Attendance: ~2000
- Total papers: ~2100
- No Commission F business meeting held.

AGU 2010 Fall Meeting – San Francisco, CA, December 13-17, 2010,

- 18,400 attendees

Microrad 2010 – Washington DC, March 1-4, 2010

- well attended (~250 est)

Microwave Signatures - Florence – October 4-8, 2010.

- About 150 attendees

Other meetings:

- 2010 Ocean Sciences Meeting - 22–26 February 2010, Portland, Oregon, USA
- 2010 Western Pacific Geophysics Meeting - June 2010, Taipei, Taiwan
- 2010 Joint Assembly - 08–13 August 2010, Iguassu Falls, Brazil
- AP-RASC`10 – 2010 Asia-Pacific Radio Science Conference, Toyama Japan, September 22-26, 2010
<http://www.ap-rasc10.jp>
- ISAPE 2010 – 9th International Symposium on Antennas, Propagation, and EM Theory, Guangzhou, China, November 29-December 2, 2010
<http://www.crip.ac.cn/isape2010>.
- ICEAA`10 Offshore, Sydney, Australia, September 20-24, 2010
<http://www.iceaa-offshore.org>

Discussion ensued on URSI Commission F Sessions at IGARSS. Al pointed out that most IGARSS sessions are not about remote sensing science. Kamal proposes pressuring funding agencies to increase funding of remote sensing science. It was generally agreed that there is

a sponsorship problem in the U.S. Al and others plan to bring this up at the next IEEE-GRSS AdCom meeting.

7. Present Meeting

USNC/URSI National Radio Science Meeting, January 5-8, 2011

- Abstracts: 358 (vs 347 final in 2010)
- Registrations: 347 as of 1/4/11 (vs 380 final in 2010, 257 in 2009)
- Sessions: 49 (vs 45 in 2010, 36 in 2009)
- Commission F: 10 organized special sessions, 3 joint session (GHF, FJE), 72 total papers (vs. 66 in 2010, 31 in 2009), including 1 student paper competition finalist (59.3 jointly weighted)
- Plenary: Special session in memory of William Gordon, Organized by USNC Officers Uslenghi, Rahmat Samii, and Reising
- Student travel fellowship grants (\$600 for 1st author students from US universities), 113 supported students (vs. 97 in 2010, 66 in 2009).
- Ernest K. Smith Student Paper Contest: 13 papers submitted (vs. 13 in 2010). Awards of \$1000, \$750, and \$500 + travel expenses to be provided. Three Commission F papers submitted (same as in 2010 – great record!). One Commission F paper selected for final presentation in the 2011 student paper competition (others from B,H). Contest organized by Danilo Erricolo.
- Financial: Net surplus of \$24K anticipated (vs. \$40K actual in 2010)

Feedback from Commission F is solicited.

Commission F Sessions:

F1 - Active Remote Sensing of the Earth's Environment

Co-Chairs: Mahta Moghaddam and Andreas Muschinski (8 papers)

GHF1 (Joint) - Global Navigation Satellite Systems and Radio Beacon Remote Sensing I

Co-Chairs: Valery Zavorotny, Carl Siefring, and Sigrid Close (4 papers)

F2 - Passive Remote Sensing of the Earth's Environment

Co-Chairs: Albin Gasiewski and Steven Reising (9 papers)

GHF2 - Global Navigation Satellite Systems and Radio Beacon Remote Sensing II

Co-Chairs: Sigrid Close, Carl Siefring, and Valery Zavorotny (8 papers)

F3 - Radar Remote Sensing of Precipitation

Co-Chairs: V Chandrasekar and Guifu Zhang (7 papers)
(Gasiewski to moderate for Chandra)

F4 - Waves in Random and Complex Media I

Co-Chairs: Akira Ishimaru and Saba Mudaliar (8 papers)

F5 - Mesoscale Numerical Weather Prediction in Support of Wave Propagation Modeling

Co-Chairs: Tracy Haack and Robert Marshall (11 papers)

FJE1 (Joint) - Radio Frequency Interference Mitigation and Spectrum Usage

Co-Chairs: David Kunkee and Steven Ellingson (7 papers)

F6 - Waves in Random and Complex Media II

Co-Chairs: Saba Mudaliar and Akira Ishimaru (4 papers)

F7 - Propagation Modeling and Measurements

Co-Chairs: Gary Brown and Michael Newkirk (6 papers)

8. Future URSI & Related Meetings

2011 30th Triennial URSI General Assembly and Scientific Symposium (GASS), Istanbul, Turkey, August 13-20, 2011, <http://www.ursigass2011.org>

- Submission deadline is February 11. *Submissions from USNC, especially Commission F, are strongly encouraged!*
- 3 special sessions to be held honoring: Bill Gordon, Don Backer, Carl Baum
- 4-hour short courses are being solicited. Interested members should contact George Uslenghi ASAP
- Student competition to be held, chaired by Steve Reising. Total \$5k for five prizes.
- Major awards for 2011 GASS: Nominations have been made for the Van der Pol Gold Medal, Dellingen Gold Medal, Appleton Prize, Booker Gold Medal and Koga Gold Medal
- Note: Travel grants for members to attend GASS are not expected this year due to insufficient income and election to support student travel.

Q: Feedback from Commissions on this tradeoff is solicited by USNC.

IEEE AP-S International Symposium & USNC/URSI National Radio Science Meetings:

- APS/URSI 2011 - Spokane, WA, USA, July 3-8, 2011 - Convention Center and Davenport Hotel. General Chair: Jeffrey Young

Commission F Session on Random and Complex Media (Chaired by Saba Mudaliar and Akira Ishimaru)

January 14 is the submission deadline. *Commission F Participation is encouraged!*

Web site: <http://www.apsursi2011.org>

- APS/URSI 2012 – Chicago, IL, USA, July 8-14, 2012

USNC Commission F will participate in this meeting.

- APS/URSI 2013 – Orlando, FL, USA, July 7-12, 2013
- APS/URSI 2014 – Memphis, TN, USA, July 6-12, 2014
- APS/URSI 2015 – Vancouver, Canada, July TBD, 2015, North American Radio Science Meeting, needs USNC and CNC approval (Note: if NARSM, then no 2015 Boulder NRSRM)
- APS/URSI 2016 – San Juan, Puerto Rico (proposed)
- APS/URSI 2017 – San Diego, CA (proposed)

Q: Feedback on last two venues solicited, in particular on whether a university or hotel/conference center venue is preferred.

IEEE International Geoscience & Remote Sensing Symposia (IGARSS):

- IGARSS 2011 - Sendai, Japan, August 1-5, 2011
- IGARSS 2012 - Munich, Germany, July 22-27, 2012
- IGARSS 2013 - Melbourne, Australia, July 21-26, 2013
- IGARSS 2014 – Quebec City, Canada

Note: IGARSS moving to notional three-year (Americas, Europe, Asia) rotation.

USNC/URSI National Radio Science Meeting, January 3-7, 2012 (proposed), Boulder, CO.

For Plenary Session, we would consider the allocation of radio spectrum and its connection with Government and with The National Academies' Committee on Radio Frequencies (CORF). We could work with other Commissions. First priorities: E, J and C.

12th URSI Commission F Triennial Open Symposium on Radio Wave Propagation and Remote Sensing, March 8-11, 2011, Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Alpine-Bavaria, Germany. General Chair: Wolfgang Keydel, abstracts due January 21, Young Scientist Program, <http://www.tu-chemnitz.de/etit/hf/ursi/>

Roger Lang and Saul Torrico are organizing a session on propagation over terrain, both vegetated and non-vegetated.

4th IEEE International Symposium on Microwave, Antenna, and Propagation and EMC Technologies for Wireless Communications (MAPE 2011), November 1-3, Beijing, China. Co-Chairs: Ross Stone and Zong Sha, <http://mape.emclab-bjtu.com>

International Conference on EM in Advanced Applications and IEEE-APS Topical Conference on Antennas and Propagation in Wireless Communications (ICEAA-IEEE APWC), September 12-17, 2011, Torino, Italy. <http://www.iceaa.net>

American Geophysical Union (AGU) meetings:

- AGU 2011 Fall Meeting – December 5-9, 2011, San Francisco, California, USA

Other meetings ???

9. Issues for Discussion

Poster session titles and organizers for 2011 GASS from Commission F are needed as soon as possible. Please send them to Al Gasiewski.

Q: Can Commission F identify universities or other institutions who are active in Radio Science but do not participate in the USNC-URSI National Radio Science Meeting?

Not at this time.

Q: Would Commission F support changing the name of the North American Radio Science Meeting to the William Gordon Radio Science Meeting, in honor of Bill Gordon's major contributions to radio science in the U.S. Perhaps not the entire meeting, but the plenary session?

To change the name may blur the distinction between us and the Gordon Conferences. Ross Stone is in favor of naming our Plenary Session after him.

10. New Business

None

11. USNC Action Items

Special Sessions for 2012 National Radio Science Meeting

New Ideas:

- Future of Remote Sensing

12. Adjourn

Attendance List

Commission F Members

Gary Brown
Dan Dockery
Al Gasiewski
Jonathan Gehman
Tracy Haack
David Hill
David Kunkee
Roger Lang
Robert Marshall
Steve Reising
Kamal Sarabandi
Dean Smith
Fred Solheim
Ross Stone
Thomas Thompson
J. Vivekanandan
Ed Walsh
Valery Zavorotny
Guifu Zhang

Guests

Jimmy Alatishe
Darren Albers
Brooke Bachmann
Peter Bresnahan
Kyle Gilliam
Katherine Horgan
Ali Karimian
Alexander Lee
Brad Lindseth
Sharmila Padmanabhan
Yayha Rahmat-Samii
Swaroop Sahoo
Srikumar Sandeep
Ashkan Vakil
Qianyi Zhao