

IEEE Signal Processing Society
Sensor Array and Multichannel (SAM) Technical Committee
Minutes of the ICASSP'11 Meeting
Prague, Czech Republic; Thursday, 26 May 2011; 11:45-13:30,Thames, Corinthia Hotel

Present TC Members: Viberg (chair), Ho (vice-chair), Besson, Blum, Delmas, Greco, Haardt, Jakobsson, Koivunen, Larzabal, Mecklenbrauker, Moses, Nehorai, Serpedin, Shahbazpanahi, Smith, Swami, Swindlehurst, Tabrikian, Willett, Zoubir

Present Associate Members: Saeed Gazor, Raghuvveer Rao

Other Guests: none

§1. Welcome of New TC Members and Short Introduction

- 5 new members were present at the meeting.

§2. Report from the Chair

§2.1 Awards, Distinguished Lecturers, Fellows

- The Chair announced that 2010 was a very successful year for award nominations. The successful award nominations are: Distinguished Lecturers, Technical Achievement Award, Education Award, Best Paper Award, Young Author Best Paper Award and Signal Processing Magazine Best Paper Award. The Technical Achievement Award and the Education Award were joint nominations with, respectively, the SPTM TC and the SPEd TC. Two award nominations were unsuccessful: Signal Processing Magazine Best Column Award and the Technical Achievement Award (the TC submitted two nominations for this award). In addition to the successful nominations from SAM, one member received the Best Paper Award and another member is a co-author of the Young Author Best Paper Award.
- Two members Maria Sabrina Greco and Visa Koivunen were elected to be Fellow of IEEE, Class 2011.

§2.2 ICASSP 2011 Paper Submissions

- SAM received 217 paper submissions and 110 were accepted. Most of the papers had 4 reviews. Our paper acceptance rate is 51%, very close to the ICASSP overall acceptance rate of 49%. The papers were distributed to 4 lecture sessions, 8 poster sessions and 2 joint poster sessions with SPCOM.
- The Chair mentioned that the number of SAM paper submissions is similar to that of the previous year. However, since the number of paper submissions has gone up in ICASSP 2011, the percentage of SAM paper submissions is decreased.

§2.3 Job Marketplace

- The job marketplace is a website for employers to post their job openings and students to seek for job opportunities. A number of TCs have created the job marketplace website already and our TC has yet to create it. The Webmaster Subcommittee will work with the Industry/Government Subcommittee to create this website for SAM.

§2.4 Baker and Fink Awards

- Both awards are intended to honor the “best of the best” papers. The descriptions of the two awards were reviewed. Dominic Ho will send out the details of the two awards to the TC members.

§2.5 Creation of a SAM TC and Subcommittee Manual and Timeline

- The idea of creating the manual and timeline document was discussed. There was a general consensus to create the document.

§2.6 Information from the SPS Technical Directions Meeting

- The TC Chair informs that the SPS Bylaws have been updated on the procedure of membership voting. Other items discussed include the creation of an SP Cup and the formulation of a new TC on Signal Processing in Energy Systems (contact Anna Scaglione if you are interested).

§3. Workshop Reports

§3.1 SAM 2010

- Joseph Tabrikian, a Technical Program Co-Chair of the SAM 2010 Workshop, presented the final report of the Workshop. The Workshop was held in Kibutz Ma'ale Hachamisha Hotel, Israel. The number of paper submissions was 102 and 68 papers(excluding the invited papers) were accepted. The number of attendees was 102. The Workshop has 27% surplus (\$10,676). The final report is attached in the meeting minutes.

§3.2 CAMSAP 2011

- Maria Greco, a General Co-Chair of the CAMSAP2011 Workshop, presented the interim report of CAMSAP2011. The workshop will be held in the San Juan Marriott Resort, Puerto Rico, from Dec. 13-16. The paper submission was opened on 19 May 2011 and the deadline for full four-page paper submission is 8 July, 2011. The interim report is attached in the meeting minutes.

§4. Proposal for SAM 2012

§4.1 Presentation and Discussion

- Peter Willett, a Technical Co-Chair of the SAM2012 Workshop, presented the proposal. The Workshop will be held in the Campus of Stevens Institute of Technology, NJ, USA, 17-20 June 2012. The general Co-Chairs are Drs. Hongbin Li and Xiaodong Wang. The proposal containing the details is attached. Arranging more special sessions in the workshop was suggested.

§4.2 Voting Results

- The Workshop proposal received unanimous support among all the TC members present in the TC meeting. In addition, four members expressed their support by email. Except the TC members in the Workshop organizing committee, we have received 24 Yes votes to support the proposal. The proposal was approved.

§5. Subcommittee Assignments

- The TC Chair reviewed the 2011 Subcommittee Assignments with the TC members. There was no objection of the member assignments. Olivier Besson, currently assigned as the Chair of the Nominations and Elections Subcommittee, cannot take the position because he will be up for election of his second membership term. It was agreed to maintain Olivier Besson in this Subcommittee but he will not be involved in the voting process for member elections. Another member in this subcommittee will be assigned as the Chair. One TC member pointed out that Yuri Abramovich has moved to U.S. and he is no longer in Region10. One member suggested to add the pictures of the TC members in the SAM TC website.

§6. Discussion Topics

§6.1 Membership Diversity

- The TC Chair expressed that more diversity of TC members in gender, geographic and industry is needed. The TC currently has only two female members, no member from Region10 and two members from industry (excluding government labs). The Nominations and Elections Subcommittee and Membership Subcommittee are expected to look into the improvement of member diversity when the next membership election occurs.

§6.2 Dedicated Membership Slots to Individuals from Industry

- After some discussions, it was felt that we should not have a fixed number of slots specified for members from industry. Rather, the member election form will be modified to include some entries for industrial individuals to fill in their credentials, such as patents, standards development, etc. It was also suggested to specify a minimum number, instead of a fixed number, of membership slots from industry.

§6.3 Conference Endorsement

- The TC Chair has received a request to endorse the technical co-sponsorship of the Sensor Signal Processing for Defense Conference to be held at Imperial College, UK, from 28-29 September, 2011. After some discussions, there was no objection and the SAM TC endorsed the technical co-sponsorship of the conference.

§7. Close of the Meeting

- The meeting was adjourned at 13:30 and all the agenda items were covered.