

**Minutes of the Control Systems Society Board of Governors Meeting
June 13, 2006, Minneapolis, Minnesota U.S.A.**

Call to Order and Approval of Agenda

John Baillieul called the meeting of the Control Systems Society (CSS) Board of Governors (BoG) to order at 12:56 P.M. on June 13, 2006, then asked the attendees to introduce themselves. The following members of the BoG were in attendance: E. Abed, F. Allgöwer, J. Baillieul, J. Bay, L. Bushnell, C. Cassandras, D. Castanon, E. Chong, T. Djaferis, F. Doyle, J. Farrell, S. Ge, B. Ghosh, B. Heck, K. Hoo, J. Huang, D. Lawrence, R. Middleton, E. Misawa, P. Misra, L. Pao, T. Samad, D. Schoenwald, A. Stefanopoulou, J. Sun, D. Tilbury, C. Tomlin, M. E. Valcher, H. Wang and Y. Yamamoto. Additionally, the following visitors attended the meeting: T. Parisini, E. Camacho, S. Yurkovich, R. Tempo and B. Pasik-Duncan.

Modifications/additions to the agenda were noted, and the agenda was approved by unanimous consent. Next, the minutes of the BoG meeting of December 11, 2005 were approved by unanimous consent.

Action Items

Election of Officers for 2007

J. Baillieul, standing in for M. Spong, presented the Nominating Committee report to the BoG. The Nominating Committee consists of Spong (Chair), Baillieul, Birdwell, Djaferis and Tempo.

Baillieul conducted the election of CSS officers for 2007. There were no new nominations from the floor. The following candidates nominated by the Nominating Committee were approved by the BoG: President-Elect, D. Castanon; Vice President for Conference Activities, R. Middleton; Vice President for Financial Activities, E. Abed; Vice President for Member Activities, M. E. Valcher; Vice President for Publication Activities, Y. Yamamoto; and Vice President for Technical Activities, J. Farrell.

Baillieul next informed the BoG of the candidates for this year's election: F. Bullo, S. Ge, J. Huang, M. Rotea, J. Sun, M. Sznaier, C. Tomlin and H. Wang [*Ed.* the following were elected: Bullo, Ge, Rotea, Sun, Sznaier, Tomlin].

Editorial Appointments for the Transactions on Automatic Control (TAC) for 2007

Samad presented the TAC AE nominees, which were previously discussed and endorsed by the Executive Committee. The BoG unanimously approved the following (to start January 1, 2007): A. Ferrara, G. Feng, A. Loria, B. Ninness and J.-F. Zhang.

Editorial Appointments for the Transactions on Control Systems Technology (TCST)

Samad presented the TCST AE nominees, which were also previously endorsed by the Executive Committee. The BoG unanimously approved the following (to start July 2006): C. Bohn, A. Giua, J. Raisch and T. Zhang. Currently, 30% to 40% of the AEs are from industry.

Editorial Appointments for the Conference Editorial Board (CEB)

Samad presented the following CEB AE nominees, which were previously endorsed by the Executive Committee. The BoG unanimously approved the following nominees (to start July 2006): S. Andersson, M. Ariola, C. Belta, J. Daafouz, M. Di Bernardo, M. Jovanovic, A. Loria, J. Lu, C. Seatzu, A. Serrani, F. Sun, S. Takai, V. Ugrinovskii and T. Ushio. There are currently about 150 CEB AEs and each handles the review of approximately 15 papers a year.

2007 Budget

Farrell presented charts for the 2005 results, 2006 forecast and 2007 budget. In 2007, the IEEE will start predicting stock market income for the societies' budgets. The current CSS net worth is \$4M. Heck was curious on how the growing surplus will be used. Farrell said that we need a proposal to spend more than \$50k on any new initiatives. Tomlin asked if there was any danger that IEEE will call on CSS to help out other societies. Baillieul acknowledged that there was tension between the large and small societies. Djaferis said that CSS is a fiscally responsible society. Our conferences are priced on the cheap side. The leadership is not focused on increasing the pot of money. Four years ago the surplus was \$2M. Also, we must remember that this is IEEE money, not CSS money. We are heavily tied to the stock market. Sun questioned the increase in periodical cost. Farrell said that IEEE is using better predictions from Xplore income. The accounting formulas have changed. Ge mentioned that the conferences are accumulating money. Is there any plan to utilize the profit for the society? Baillieul said the surplus goes into the net worth of CSS and there is always a possibility to provide service to the members. Note that the 2007 budget was approved with the new addition of \$16k going towards banquet tickets for student attendees at the CDC. The BoG approved the 2007 budget.

General Chair, Multi-Conference on Systems and Control 2009

The BoG unanimously approved A. Fradkov as the General Chair for MSC 2009. The conference may be held in St. Petersburg, Russia in the June/July time frame. Abed mentioned that Fradkov has run a conference in St. Petersburg before. Misra asked if the financial matters were resolved. Middleton said that there may be problems setting

up a bank account in the host country, but we may be able to go through the local CSS Chapter.

Program Chair, CDC 2009

The BoG unanimously approved D. Cheng and M. Spong as Co-Program Chairs for the CDC 2009.

Budget, CDC 2007

The BoG unanimously approved the budget for the CDC 2007, to be held in New Orleans, Louisiana.

Student Travel Support

Currently, we have two sources of funds for the Student Travel Support Program for the CDC: (1) CSS funds limited to IEEE-CSS members, and (2) NSF funds, which traditionally do not have this requirement. The BoG unanimously approved to give higher priority to IEEE-CSS student members when distributing NSF funds for Student Travel Support at the CDC. This will help with the administration of this program. The two sources will be used to fund the maximum number of students.

Chair, Technical Committee on Control of Energy Processing and Power Systems

The BoG unanimously approved Sandip Roy as the TC Chair for the Technical Committee on Control of Energy Processing and Power Systems.

Technical Committee on Behavioral Systems and Control

The BoG unanimously approved create a new Technical Committee on Behavioral Systems and Control.

Editor, Electronic Publications

The BoG unanimously approved to establish the position of Editor of Electronic Publication. This Editor's responsibility will include maintenance of CSS web pages and the monthly publication of the CSS eletter. This Editor reports to VP Publications Activities and replaces the current position of eletter Editor. This position will carry with it support for a part-time assistant. The BoG also approved P. Misra to be the first Editor.

Activity Reports

Report of the President

Baillieul discussed the completion of the CSS Society Review by the IEEE TAB. He discussed the highlights of CSS current operations: brief status, triumphs, best practices and problems. In addition, he discussed the CSS's relationship with TAB and IEEE: measures of health, internationalization and financial models and reports.

After presenting the Field of Interest statement for the CSS, Baillieul presented his "Ten Most Important Intellectual Advances of the 20th Century:"

1. Aircraft and rotor craft
2. Relativity theory
3. Quantum mechanics

4. Information theory
5. The physical/chemical basis of life
6. The maximum principle
7. Recursive estimation
8. The abstraction of layering
9. Packet switched communication
10. Universal networks

Baillieul stated that CSS periodicals are leaders in the field, citing high Impact Factors (as of June 2006): (TAC = 1.545), long citation half-life (TAC > 10yrs), large circulation (TAC = 2940). In addition, in 2005 TAC ranked 7th out of all IEEE publications on Xplore with 764,756 hits, TCST ranked 67th (144,171 hits), and CSM ranked 71st (135,033 hits).

Baillieul stated there is a pervasive influence of a hidden technology in airplanes, automobiles, Matlab, etc. His SWOT analysis of the society included strengths being scientific rigor, abstraction and member competence. The weakness is inaccessibility. Our opportunities are to discover new vistas. Our threat is a declining membership. Valcher said there were 7827 members in CSS as of April 2006. Camacho said it is not clear that we are losing members if we look at the active members. Samad said we need another measure of how well the CSS is doing in membership.

Baillieul stated that we have the current initiatives of a new website, with an emphasis on electronic publishing; improved conference management; and new publications. He encouraged the BoG members to think of new initiatives for the society. Complete records of the Society Review are available on-line. Please contact the Secretary-Administrator for details.

Report of the Vice President, Publication Activities

Samad gave highlights of the CSS Society Periodical Review. The report consisted of five years of data. He thanked the Editors, Cassandras, Doyle, Bernstein and Misra, for their help with the report. Samad listed the principal "competitor publications" for each of the CSS publications. He also reviewed the impact factor ranking. Middleton reminded the BoG that the impact factor was the average of the number of citations/paper in the last two years as a fraction of the number of papers published. Samad next reviewed "quality metrics" of rejection rates and review times for all publications.

Tomlin brought up a point raised in Baillieul's report. The IEEE is introducing many errors in manuscripts handled by Manuscript Central. Baillieul said he was torn on whether or not to include this in the society report. IEEE was more concerned with the cover date and mail date for the publications. Tomlin thought that the errors were more important. Baillieul thought the IEEE could do better by trying different competing companies. Tomlin said this was a consistent problem: if you send in a paper in LaTeX, it is edited and errors are introduced. Cassandras said that all

TAC papers are sent to India and retyped. Baillieul said that the IEEE staff was not proficient in LaTeX. Tomlin asked if you could ask for the revised galleys back. Cassandras said a 2nd or 3rd revision would be fine. Baillieul said he would raise this concern at the IEEE TAB meeting. Cassandras asked everyone to send him an information on mistakes they see. Doyle also said that the TCST had a regular paper published as a brief paper, which caused a big problem. Tempo said that there were no complaints for the Technical Notes. Pao asked about doing an author survey. Cassandras said they are working on it. Baillieul said the ideal case would be if you could get the galleys back and handle the feedback.

Samad next gave highlights of the CSS publications. He also discussed the problem with dual submissions, meaning sending the same paper to two publications (conference or journal). IEEE Xplore is treating conference and journal papers the same. We need guidelines. Tomlin compared this to the Biology field, where everything is published in journals (1-page articles) with a six-week turn-around for acceptance. She suggested that we rethink the process. Sun asked if this was unique to the CSS. Samad said it was not. Tomlin said that Computer Science conference papers count towards tenure. Ghosh asked about what happened in the past. Baillieul said that some CDC papers were printed in the Transactions, but the paper reviews were handled differently then, having to go through two separate review boards. Samad said that IEEE does not like seeing the same paper published in more than one place. Doyle said we need to advertise the rules. For TCST, for example, a paper published as a conference paper can appear if it has significant change in the content and there is cross-referencing. Samad said that some other journals require 25% new content.

Samad then presented the new CSS web site beta version. There will be a front end (for users) and back end (for officers and other volunteers) to the web site. Option Matrix (India) is designing the new web site, which should be on-line later this year.

Samad gave an update on the new journal that was discussed at the last BoG meeting. A proposal was sent to the IEEE in January 2006. The IEEE discouraged any new publications and suggested that the new publication be an electronic “part” of an existing one. There are still more issues to discuss.

Report of the Vice President, Conference Activities

Middleton asked if there were any questions from the reports presented to the BoG. Middleton presented charts from the 2006 CDC paper review process. Out of 1833 papers submitted, there were only one or two “A” papers. He predicted that all of the B and B- papers would be accepted, giving an acceptance rate of 60%. As an experiment, the 2006 CDC will have 40% of the papers presented as posters. This allows for more flexibility. Without poster sessions, we

would need 24 parallel technical sessions and it would be hard to fit this in any hotel. The poster papers are identical quality to the regular papers. Baillieul thought this was a brave experiment. Heck asked what the consensus was in previous years with regard to poster papers. Middleton said that poster papers were “add ons” before and were a small percentage of the conference. They had a perception as having low quality. For the 2006 CDC, we will spend money on exhibit booths (with power) for each poster paper. Pasik-Duncan said that other societies have built-in poster sessions and they are not considered 2nd class. They can be set up at a special time with refreshments and awards. They are interactive, nice and very positive. Middleton took a straw poll among the BoG on their opinion on poster sessions. The majority was in favor. Wang suggested to give legitimacy to the poster sessions, we should select dynamic authors to these sessions. Middleton said some authors are happy to do this and some are not. Heck said that everyone knows how to give a regular paper. Are there guidelines for poster presentations? Middleton said the guidelines are taken from other conferences. Pasik-Duncan said that SIAM had guidelines for poster presentations. Misra said the success will be based on the show atmosphere. Baillieul said this was an opportunity to explore a variety of presentations. Middleton said the poster presentations will be in the afternoons. Schoenwald liked not having the poster papers at the same time as the regular sessions. Misra said the hotel has enough space to do this. This arrangement may not fit in other hotels. Ghosh asked what the poster sessions will be competing with. Middleton said no regular parallel sessions will be scheduled at the same time; only tutorials, and interactive/invited sessions.

Middleton then asked for other organizers of future conferences to speak. Bushnell (Program Chair for 2007 ACC) said all was on track for the first New York city ACC. Ge (General Chair for 2007 MSC) said the web site was on-line for the first MSC – to be held in Singapore. Castanon (General Chair for 2007 CDC, New Orleans) said there would be a meeting for the 2007 CDC tomorrow. Samad (Program Chair for 2008 ACC) mentioned a recent site visit to Seattle. Middleton reported that the 2008 MSC is considering an east coast USA location and that the 2008 CDC is negotiating a hotel contract. Baillieul (co-General Chair, 2009 CDC, China) said he and Hua Wang will be traveling to Guangzhou, Shanghai, Beijing and Hong Kong in July 2006 to look for a location. He will report back to the BoG in December. The cost structure in China is different than in the USA.

Report of the Vice President, Member Activities

Valcher reported that there were new forms on the CSS web site (thanks to Misra) for the Travel Support Program for students and developing countries. The forms can be submitted through PaperPlaza. Awards will be in the form of paid conference registrations only.

Valcher presented the three new Distinguished Lecturers for 2006: Carlos Canudas de Wit, Miroslav Krstic and Pablo Iglesias. Boyd, Bitmead and Campi also had their DL terms extended to the end of 2006.

Valcher reported that the UK-Republic of Ireland Chapter of the CSS was chosen as the 2006 winner of the Outstanding Chapter Award. The award is based on activity from May 2005 to May 2006.

Valcher also reported that the Northwest Russia Chapter will be given a grant of \$1k through the LASS program.

Report of the Vice President, Technical Activities

Yamamoto reported that most Technical Committees are active as compared to two years ago. Ghosh asked if you could join a TC via the new web site. Yamamoto said that the TCs are open to all and encouraged contacting the TC Chairs via email. Samad asked what it meant to be a member of a TC. Yamamoto said TCs have newsletters, workshops, and organize invited sessions. Ghosh said it would be useful to have them as a review interface. Yamamoto was not sure if this was a good idea. There are many other tasks, including generating new topics and ideas.

Pasik-Duncan, Chair of the TC on Control Education, reported there was a new demand on control education. There are strong demands on new courses and lectures in Systems & Control. There are many interactions with other disciplines. She was concerned with reforming control education.

Report of the Secretary-Administrator

Bushnell noted that the next BoG meeting would be held on December 12, 2006, at 1:00 P.M. in San Diego, CA at the CDC 2006.

Adjournment

Baillieul thanked the members of the Board of Governors and visitors for attending the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 4:35 P.M.

*IEEE CSS Secretary-Administrator: Linda G. Bushnell,
September 6, 2006.*