

Minutes of the Control Systems Society Board of Governors Meeting
June 10, 2008
Seattle, WA USA

Call to Order and Approval of Agenda

D. Castañón called the meeting of the Control Systems Society (CSS) Board of Governors (BoG) to order at 12:00 P.M. on June 10, 2007. The following members of the BoG were in attendance: E. Abed, F. Allgöwer, J. Baillieul, D. Bernstein, F. Bullo, E. Camacho, D. Castañón, E. Chong, F. Chowdhury, W. Dixon, T. Djaferis, J. Farrell, M. Fuijita, S. Ge, B. Heck, Z Lin, E. Misawa, P. Misra, Y. Ohta, T. Parisini, M. Polycarpou, M. Rotea, T. Samad, A. Stefanopoulou, J. Sun, M. Sznaier, M. E. Valcher, and H. Wang. Additionally, the following visitors attended the meeting: R. Tempo, I. Kolmanovsky, M. Spong and Jayne Cerone.

Modifications and additions to the agenda were noted, and the agenda was approved by unanimous consent. Next, the minutes of the BoG meeting of December 11, 2007 held in New Orleans, LA, USA were approved by unanimous consent.

Action Items

ByLaw Change

Motion: To amend Article 1, Section 1 of the CSS Bylaws:

Endorsed by: Executive Committee

Current wording: Section 1. Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee for each year shall be appointed during the preceding year by the President-Elect, with the approval of the Board of Governors. That committee shall consist of a Past President as Chair and four or more members of the Society not more than half of whom are elected members of the Board of Governors.

Proposed revised wording: Section 1. Nominating Committee. The Nominating Committee for each year shall be appointed during the preceding year by the President-Elect, with the approval of the Board of Governors. That committee shall consist of a Past President as Chair and four or more members of the Society not more than half of whom are elected members of the Board of Governors. Members of the Nominating Committee will not be eligible to be elected to the Board of Governors or as officers of the society while serving on the Nominating Committee.

Explanation: This spells out our existing practice that Nominating Committee members cannot nominate themselves as candidates for the Board of Governors.

The motion passed with unanimous consent.

Motion: To amend Article 1, Section 2 of the CSS Bylaws:

Endorsed by: Executive Committee

Current wording: Section 2. Notice to Members. On or before February 15 of each year, the Secretary-Administrator shall

notify all members of the Society, through a Society publication sent to all members, that nominations for election to the Board of Governors may be made by petitions signed by 25 or more members of the Society. These petitions must be received by the Executive Director by March 15.

Proposed new wording: Section 2. Notice to Members. On or before February 15 of each year, the Secretary-Administrator shall notify all members of the Society, through a Society publication sent to all members, that nominations for election to the Board of Governors may be made by petitions signed by 2% of the members of the society. Prior to submission of a nomination petition, the petitioner shall have determined that the nominee named in the petition is willing to serve, if elected; evidence of such willingness to serve shall be submitted with the petition. Signatures can be submitted electronically through the official IEEE society annual election website, or by signing and mailing a paper petition. The name of each member signing the paper petition shall be clearly printed or typed. For identification purposes of signatures on paper petitions, membership numbers or addresses as listed in the official IEEE membership records shall be included. Only signatures submitted electronically through the IEEE society annual elections website or original signatures on paper petitions shall be accepted. These petitions must be received by the Executive Director by March 15.

Explanation: This changes substantially the process for nominations generated by our members outside of the nominating committee. Given our current membership, this increases the former requirement of 25 endorsements to around 150 endorsements. This is required in the IEEE bylaws.

After some discussion the motion was approved with a majority decision. One BoG member voted no.

Motion: To amend our constitution in order to come in compliance with the requirements of the IEEE Constitution and Bylaws. In general, this amendment simply spells out our common practices, but such delineation is required by IEEE. Endorsed by: Executive Committee

Amendment 1: Add the following section to Article VIII of the CSS Constitution:

Article VIII - Meetings

Section 7. Individuals holding more than one position on the Board of Governors or any committee there of, shall be limited to one vote on each matter being considered by the Board of Governors or that committee. Proxy voting is not allowed in any meeting of the Board of Governors or committees.

The motion passed with unanimous consent.

Nominations

Castañón informed the BoG that Tariq Samad will serve as the CSS President in 2009: additionally the following vice presidents will continue in their current offices: M. Elena Valcher as VP Conference Activities, E. Abed as VP Finance and M. Sznaier as Executive Director.

Nominating committee proposed R. Tempo as the President Elect, S. Hara as V.P. Member Activities, E. Misawas as VP Publication Activities, S. Ge as V.P. Technical Activities. New and continuing appointments were approved without discussion with unanimous consent.

Castañón presented the following 2008 elected BoG Member slate: Gary Balas, Daizhan Cheng, Warren Dixon, Masayuki Fujita, Oscar Gonzalez, João Hespanha, Ilya Kolmanovsky, Rick Middleton, and Yeng Chai Soh.

Appointments

Transactions on Automatic Control

Castañón presented new appointments to the Transactions on Automatic Control Editorial Board. BoG approval for the following new members of the Editorial Board was sought: Denis Arzelier (LAAS-CNRS, France), Xinkai Chen (Shibaura Institute of Technology, Japan), Fabrizio Dabbene (Politecnico di Torino and National Research Council of Italy), Hisaya Fujioka (Kyoto University, Japan), Maria Prandini (Politecnico di Milano, Italy), Spiridon (Spyros) Reveliotis (Georgia Institute of Technology), Csaba Szepesvari (University of Alberta, Canada), Panagiotis Tsiotras (Georgia Institute of Technology), Joseph Jean-Marie Winkin (University of Namur, Belgium)). Each candidate's vitae were displayed. Newer members of the BoG were reminded of the experience criteria for selection of new AEs for TAC. The motion to approve the slate of new AEs passed with unanimous consent.

Additionally BoG approval for the following new Associate Editors at Large (AEAL) for the Transactions on Automatic Control was sought: Weibo Gong, Miroslav Krstic and Torsten Soderstrom. The motion to approve the slate of new AEs/AEALs passed with unanimous consent.

Conference Editorial Board

Next, Castañón presented the slate of new AEs for the Conference Editorial Board (CEB). It was moved that the following slate of new CEB AEs be approved: Warren Dixon, University of Florida, USA, Rolf Findeisen, University of Magdeburg, Germany, Huijun Gao, Harbin Inst. of Technology, China, Hai Lin, Nat. University of Singapore, Fernando Lizarralde, Federal University of Rio De Janeiro, Brazil, Michael Malisoff, Louisiana State University, USA, Nuno C. Martins, University of Maryland, College Park, USA, Yasamin Mostofi, University of New Mexico, USA, Yugang Niu, Nanjing University of Science & Technology, China, Felice A. Pellegrino, University of Trieste, Italy, Jan Willem

Polderman, University of Twente, The Netherlands, Luca Schenato, Università di Padova, Italy, Georg Schitter, Delft University of Technology, The Netherlands, Weihai Zhang, Shandong Univ. of Science and Technology, China, Xiaodong Zhang, Wright State University, USA, Argyrios Zolotas, Loughborough University, UK. The motion to approve the slate of new AEs passed with unanimous consent.

Editor Elect Nominee

T. Samad presented a motion to appoint Panos Antsaklis as Editor-Elect for *IEEE Transactions on Automatic Control*, with effect from July 1, 2008. He also discussed the EiC and ETNC Succession

Background

- TAC EiC (Cassandras) and ETNC (Tempo) stepping down in 2009-ETNC in early '09 and EiC mid-to-late '09 .
- Replacements need to be identified and we also want to take this opportunity to review the TAC editorial structure
- Succession plan: *Editor-Elect* approval at ACC-08 BoG meeting (i.e., now), approval of (potential) new structure and editorial nominee(s) at CDC-08 BoG meeting, Editor-Elect takes over "ETNC" responsibilities in early 2009 (title of position may change), Editor-Elect succeeds EiC in mid-to-late 2009; new structure (if moved and approved) implemented

A couple of BoG members expressed concerns regarding the P. Antsaklis appointment. However, the discussion was supportive of P. Antsaklis and the motion was approved with a majority decision, 1 abstention (D. Bernstein recorded).

Financial Activities Motion and Report

2009 CSS Budget

Vice President, Financial Activities Eyad Abed presented a chart for the 2009 budget.

The financial operations of the IEEE Control Systems Society are proceeding smoothly, with budgets in place for all vendors and editorial offices. Moreover, the financial condition of the IEEE Control Systems Society is strong. The Society's net worth as monitored by IEEE has seen steady growth for the past six years. The current net worth is in the neighborhood of \$6.7M. Because of healthy returns from the Society's activities, including the Society's financial benefit from the demand for its publications in IEEE Xplore, the Society expects a surplus from operations both in 2008 and 2009.

The Executive Committee approved funding for several special projects for 2009, which will make use of the expected operating surplus. These projects and their approved funding amounts are: \$25K for the developing countries travel support program, \$40K for the developing countries conference support program, and \$100K for a Task Force on Outreach.

BoG may want to consider ideas for other projects that will allow CSS to invest Society funds for the benefit of the profession.

Board of Governors members are reminded that the Society offers partial travel reimbursement for attendance at BoG

meetings in the amount of \$500 for domestic travel and \$800 for international travel. The latest (2008) IEEE reimbursement form should be used to claim a reimbursement; this form can be downloaded from the Society's web site.

With that background Abed moved that the budget for 2009 be approved.

The CSS budget for 2009 was passed with unanimous consent.

Conference Activities Motions

Program Chair ISIC 2010

Valcher proposed that Warren Dixon be approved as the **Program Chair for the ISIC 2010**. BoG approved the appointment with unanimous consent.

Program Chair CACSD 2010

Valcher proposed that Fabrizio Dabbene be approved as the **Program Chair for the CACSD 2010**. BoG approved the appointment with unanimous consent.

Program Chair for the CCA 2010

Valcher proposed that Mitsui Sampei be approved as the **Program Chair** for the CCA 2010. BoG approved the appointment with unanimous consent.

CDC-ECC 2011

Valcher presented 4 motions for the **CDC-ECC 2011**. Eduardo F. Camacho was proposed as the **EUCA General Vice-Chair**. BoG approved the appointment with unanimous consent. Jay Farrell was proposed as the **CSS General Vice-Chair**. BoG approved the appointment with unanimous consent. Additionally E. Valcher proposed a **4 Day Format** for this specific conference. The Bog unanimously approved the 4 Day format. E. Valcher also proposed the **venue and dates**. The Bog unanimously approved Orlando, Florida, as venue and December 12-15, 2011, as dates.

MSC 2012 General Chair

Valcher proposed that Stjepan Bogdan be approved as the **MSC 2012 General Chair**. After some discussion the motion was approved with a majority decision, with one abstention. Valcher then proposed Dubrovnik, Croatia as the **MSC 2012 Venue** and after some discussion the motion was approved with a majority decision, with one abstention (M. Rotea recorded).

CDC 2010

Valcher proposed Atlanta, Georgia as the **CDC 2010 Venue**. BoG approved the venue with unanimous consent.

MSC 2010 Venue

Valcher proposed Tokyo, Japan for the **MSC 2010 Venue**. BoG approved the venue with unanimous consent.

Budget, MSC 2009

Valcher invited Illya Kolmanasky to present the MSC 2009 initial budget. Kolmanasky presented the budget parameters with total projected income of \$123,550; total projected outlays of \$103,900; yielding a net surplus of \$19,650. After some discussion about the conservative attendance figures it was noted the budget will be revised in December. The BoG approved the budget with unanimous consent.

Budget, 48th CDC-CCC

Valcher invited Baillieul (General Chair, 48th CDC) to present the **CDC-CCC 2009 Budget**. Baillieul presented a budget sheet and noted this has the approval of the conference group and ExCom. Baillieul presented the budget parameters with total projected income of \$1,031,050; total projected outlays of \$883,120; yielding a net surplus of \$147,930. There was discussion on conferences overseas being more affordable for students to attend. Since CSS has a surplus budget some BoG members discussed creating programs for travel support, special events, pay for banquet tickets, free workshops, etc. to attending students. After a few minor clarifications about how various income and expense categories are defined on the IEEE budget sheet, the BoG approved the budget with unanimous consent.

Motions Approved via Email

In order that motions passed via email votes are formally recorded in CSS archives, Castañón reminded the BoG that between the December and the June BoG meetings, the following motions were discussed and approved:

Motion: Appoint Faryar Jabbari as the 2008 CDC Best Student Paper Award Committee Chair.

This nomination was endorsed by ExCom and on March 2, 2008 we began a BOG two-week email discussion on this motion which was followed by a BOG vote with a March 23, 2008 deadline. The motion was approved.

Motion: Appoint Peng Shi Emergency TAC AE replacement.

This nomination was endorsed by ExCom and on March 9, 2008 we began a BOG two-week email discussion on this motion which was followed by a BOG vote with a March 12, 2008 deadline. The motion was approved.

Motion: Appoint Eric Fabre as Emergency TAC AE replacement.

This nomination was endorsed by ExCom and on March 27, 2008 we began a BOG abbreviated discussion which was followed by a BOG vote with an April 8, 2008 deadline. The motion was approved.

Two (2) Motions proposed by David Castañón:

These nominations were endorsed by ExCom and on May 10, 2008 we began a BOG one-week email discussion on these motions which was followed by a BOG vote with a May 24,

2008 deadline. .

MOTION 1

The 2008 deadline for notifying members for petition nominations for election to the BOG is extended to April 6, 2008 and the deadline of receipt of these petitions by the Executive Director is set to April 25. The motion was approved.

MOTION 2

The 2008 deadline for the Nominating Committee to give the 2008 BOG slate to the ED is set for May 10, 2008, and the deadline for the ED to give the 2008 BOG slate to IEEE is set for May 31. The motion was approved.

Discussion Items

CDC Format was discussed and an unofficial BoG vote was in favor of the 3 day format but it was decided to discuss this further and conduct a survey at the CDC 2008.

IEEE Xplore Publications and Technical Co-Sponsorship of Conferences

Reduced Society Membership Fee Model was discussed. Some members were in favor of either a free or \$5 fee which would offer an electronic version only (would not include hard copy of CSM). Another suggestion was to offer a reduced rate. Another member said this could be a hardship for the CSM and was not in favor. It was decided this is a complex issue and we will continue to discuss this issue and discuss further at the CDC 2008.

Activity Reports

Report of the President

David Castañón shared his thoughts from attending the IEEE-TAB. Following are the highlights from the meeting:

1) Report on the TAB activities at the February 2008 IEEE Series Meeting in Louisville, Kentucky

This was the first time I attended the meeting, and I was somewhat lost in the agenda. Fortunately, President-Elect Tariq Samad was able to attend also, so we had a chance to discuss among ourselves how the presentations and discussions affected CSS. What is clear is that the IEEE has a broad spectrum of societies, and that there are many IEEE societies that are product- focused as opposed to science or technology focused. This creates a major division of opinion on many subjects of discussion, with societies like CSS, Information Theory and Signal Processing usually on the same side of the argument.

Below are some highlights of the IEEE presentations and discussion.

- a) One of the interesting announcements is that IEEE now has an office in China, which may be of assistance to our future activities in that area, such as CDC 2009.
- b) IEEE decided to stop the IEEE Baker Prize, previously awarded annually for the most outstanding paper reporting original work in any of the IEEE Transactions, Journals, Magazines or Proceedings. The last time this award was offered was 2001. Our society won the prize in 1991 with the Doyle-Glover-Francis-Khargonekar paper in the Transactions on Automatic Control on state space solutions to H_2 and H_∞ problems. The main reasons were lack of time and lack of organization. Several societies voted to restore the prize and fund it from reserves, but IEEE was not interested.
- c) IEEE reported that society membership declined an average of 7% last year. Our society did a little better than average. As a consequence, there was significant discussion on reducing membership fees and increasing member benefits. An interesting motion that was proposed was a low-rate electronic membership subscription for membership in a second society, such as \$5. Alternatives were a reduced electronic membership fee for all members.
- d) IEEE has decided to create an indirect infrastructure model, based on the motions approved last year that will build an infrastructure reserve fund for major projects. This is part of the move to pay for indirect infrastructure expenses as a percentage of publications income (not to exceed 20%) rather than as costs passed to the societies. As a consequence, our reserves will be reduced by \$180,000 to create this reserve fund. In principle, this will be repaid once the Infrastructure Reserve fund reaches \$20,000,000.
- e) Revenue from electronic publications: The discussion is nearly finished on the development of an algorithm for the distribution of conference proceedings revenue. There may be negative impact on CSS. As best I understand it is due to the fact that the formula used in recent years was based on a "legacy" package of conferences. The new formula will include a mixture of content available (35%) as well as usage statistics (65%).
- f) IEEE Outreach initiatives: The current administration of IEEE is interested in involvement with some of the grand challenge activities related to important societal problems, and is looking for involvement from its member societies. I'll find out more about this in the June meetings, but at this point, there is little substance to these initiatives.
- g) Endowments: One of the best financial moves which we made in the past two decades was to endow the IEEE Control Systems Field award from our reserves, just before IEEE disallowed such endowments. This guaranteed that this prize was awarded annually to recognize our outstanding contributions. Now that the IEEE is in better financial health, they are again allowing endowments from society reserves.

2) Report on the May 2008 Executive Committee Meeting

Our Spring Executive Committee meeting was held on May 10, 2008, at Boston University, Boston, Massachusetts. During this time the Executive Committee was joined by the Editors and by the new Director of Conference Operations, and had productive discussions on various topics covering many areas of CSS operations that will be discussed at the BoG meetings this June. Among the many issues that we discussed were related to upcoming conference venues for MSC and CDC, revision of our bylaws and constitution to conform to IEEE requirements, and the possibilities for reducing our society membership fees by introducing an electronic subscription package.

The BoG thanked Castañón for his report.

Report of the Co chair CSS Task Force on Outreach

T. Samad presented the CSS Task Force on Outreach report.

In December 2007, the CSS Board of Governors approved the formation of a Task Force targeting outreach activities for our field and our society, with two focus areas:

- Developing Web and Internet content in systems and control to promote our field and to attract members to CSS.
- Better engaging industry, especially for attracting members and volunteers from industry and for facilitating better connections between academia and industry.

\$50K was approved for 2008 activities in support of the Task Force.

Task Force activities and status to date are summarized below:

- Professor Gary Balas, University of Minnesota and 2008 BoG member, has agreed to co chair the Task Force with Tariq Samad, CSS President-Elect for 2008.
- About 40 people, most of who were recommended by the CSS Executive Committee and Board of Governors, have been approached for participation in the Task Force and have agreed. We have been delighted with the response so far!
- The first meeting of the Task Force will be held on June 10, 9 a.m. – noon in Seattle, prior to the American Control Conference. About 20 people are expected to attend. An agenda and initial list of discussion points have been circulated to the expected attendees.
- We also plan to convene meetings at the other 2008 CSS-sponsored conferences, MSC and CDC. Additional discussion will happen over e-mail.
- We expect to generate recommendations for both focus areas by the end of 2008 and to initiate implementation of approved actions in early 2009.
- Financial update: The only expenses incurred or committed to date are for the ACC-08 meeting (expected to be less than \$3K).

Report of the Vice President, Technical Activities

J. Farrell referred BoG members to reports distributed prior to the meeting regarding activities of individual committees.

Report of the Vice President, Conference Activities

E. Valcher informed the BoG that our conference activities appear to be running well, and planning for future conferences is under way. Motions to be approved by the BoG have been prepared regarding the three MSC 2010 Program Chairs (ISIC 2010 PC, CCA 2010 PC and CACSD 2010 PC) and the MSC 2011 General Chair. Two proposals for hosting the MSC 2012 had been presented and discussed at the May ExCom meeting: one proposal is from Stjepan Bogdan (Dubrovnik) and the other from Hassan Noura (Abu Dhabi). Also two motions have been presented regarding the CDC-ECC 2011 and they have been both endorsed by the ExCom: one regards the CDC-ECC 2011 PC (Jay Farrell) and the other regards the possibility of having a 4 day conference for the CDC-ECC 2011, due to the significant number of expected attendees and the fact that traditionally ECC is a 4 day event. Other motions have been prepared after the May ExCom meeting.

Report of the Vice President, Editorial Board Activity

Following are the highlights from T. Parisini's report to the BoG:

Current Status

Activity over the last reporting period:

Regarding ACC'08, the publication part of the process has been successfully handled and the final program preparation is under way under the direction of Prof. Pradeep Misra and the Publication Standing Committee with the cooperation of the CEB office when needed.

The CDC'08 electronic submission process has been completed and the review process is proceeding on schedule. About 1900 papers/proposals have been submitted. To date, all papers have been sent out for review and a recommendation will be submitted by a CEB Associate Editor in May. A meeting between the CEB Chair and the CDC08 Program Co-Chairs will be held at University of Trieste on May 26, 2008 to discuss and prepare the Program Committee meeting to be held during the ACC08 in June, 2008. The main goal of this preparation meeting will be to identify the set of papers whose review process has to be refined and possibly prepare a number of sessions before the main meeting in Seattle. The Program Committee has been involved from the very beginning to supervise the review process providing additional reviews when needed.

The CEB office has been involved also in the submission-to-notification process of the 2008 IEEE MSC Conference. A meeting of the Program Co-Chairs, the General Chair and the CEB Chair has been held in Minneapolis on April 2008 to prepare the advance program and finalize the acceptance/rejection decisions. To date, the advance program is available at the conference website and the Publication committee is working to prepare the final program (also

through PaperPlaza under the supervision of Prof. Pradeep Misra with the cooperation of the CEB office when needed).

Issues over the last reporting period:

There is nothing significant to report. Any PaperPlaza-related problems have been minor and quickly resolved by the PaperPlaza development team.

Report of the Vice President, Publication Activities

Following are the highlights from Y. Yamamoto's report to the BoG:

The Publication Activities report consists mainly of reports provided by the editors-in-chief of the society publications, the *IEEE Transactions on Automatic Control* (TAC), the *IEEE Transactions on Control Systems Technology* (TCST), and *IEEE Control Systems Magazine* (CSM). In this introductory section I would like to highlight a few items from the publication reports.

Comments from BoG on our publication activities are welcome.

Publication highlights

- All publications are operating smoothly with relatively minor or no backlog. Some have minor increase compared to the last year, but this should be taken care of by the recently approved page budget increase.
- Since January 1, 2008, the TAC papers (both regular papers and TNs) are handled by the new system through the Paperplaza (**IEEE Transactions on Automatic Control On-line (TACO)**):
<http://css.paperplaza.net/journals/tac/scripts/login.pl>
- This link can be tracked through the CSS Web page. The new system handles correspondence only through the web pages, and greatly streamlines information exchange among editors, AEs and authors. "For this reason, a hard copy archive is no longer maintained at the office of the ETNC, and papers are printed only in special cases."
- The efforts of Huibert Kwakernaak and Pradeep Misra are gratefully acknowledged.
- Submissions to TAC in 2007 recorded 500 regular-paper manuscripts. This is a record high number, and 2008 seems to be at the same pace until April.
- 601 papers were submitted as Technical Notes in 2007-slightly less than 614 of 2006. But in 2008,

there are a large number of submissions, and if this trend continues, it may reach the total of 850 or so this year

- There were 545 submissions to TCST in 2007, about 50 less than 596 of 2006 which was a record high, and still is a very large number. Until April 24, it has received 180 submissions – about the same pace as last year.
- The average submission-first decision periods are approx. 6 months for TAC, and 2-4 months for TCST.
- The backlog for TAC is about 7-8months now.
- The page budget for TAC is 2700 pages for 2008, and 1410 for TCST (increased by 200 from last year).
- Each of our publications has featured and/or has in process one or more special issues:
 - TAC: Systems Biology (Systems Biology (Guest Editors: Mustafa Khammash, M. Vidyasagar, and Claire Tomlin) published in January 2008 jointly with the *IEEE Transactions on Circuits and Systems, Part-I*); Positive Polynomials in Control (Guest Editors: Graziano Chesi and Didier Henrion) is tentatively scheduled for the fall of 2008)
 - CSM: Inertially stabilized platform technology (Feb. 2008; Mike Masten, guest editor); Discontinuous Dynamical Systems (June 2008; third in the CSM Modeling series): Friction Modeling and Control (planned for Oct. 2008; guest editor, Warren Dixon); Kalman filter theory, applications, history – planned; Active Safety - planned.

CSM Website redesign

A new redesigned IEEE-CSS Website (www.ieeecss.org) is now working in full capacity, and provides various functionalities. It is expected that it gives a more flexible and easy-to-use features for maintenance and for updating.

Adjournment

Castañón reminded the BoG that the next Bog meeting will be held on Monday Dec 8, 2008 in Cancun, Mexico at the CDC. Castañón thanked the members of the Board of Governors and visitors for attending the meeting. The meeting was adjourned.