

## **Minutes of the Control Systems Society Board of Governors Meeting December 9, 2013, Florence, IT.**

### **Call to Order and Approval of Agenda**

Yutaka Yamamoto called the meeting of the Control Systems Society (CSS) Board of Governors (BoG) to order at 12:45 PM on December 9, 2013. He reminded the BoG of the rules of the meeting including reminding individuals that an abstention is a no vote. After reviewing the meeting procedures, he asked the attendees to introduce themselves. The following members of the BoG were in attendance: Frank Allgöwer, Panos Antsaklis, Alessandro Astolfi, Robert Bitmead, Francesco Bullo, Carlos Canudas de Wit, Christos Cassandras, Ed Chong, Warren Dixon, Jay Farrell, Masayuki Fujita, Alessandro Giua, Sandra Hirche, Jun-ichi Imura, Marco Lovera, Kirsten Morris, Dragan Nesic, Hitay Ozbay, Lucy Pao, Thomas Parisini, Yannis Paschalidis, Ian Petersen, Kristin Pettersen, Mario Sznaiier, and Yutaka Yamamoto. Additionally, the following visitors attended the meeting: Fabrizio Dabbene, Maria Elena Valcher, Anu Annaswamy, Magnus Egerstedt, Richard Middleton, Jakob Stoustrup, Tariq Samad, Roberto Tempo, and Amber Madison.

Quorum was established and the agenda was approved with unanimous consent. Following approval of the agenda, the minutes of the BoG meeting of June 16, 2013, held in Washington, DC were approved unanimously. Y. Yamamoto proceeded to ask if anyone would like to remove items from the Consent Agenda (see Appendix A). No items were removed from the Consent Agenda and it was approved unanimously.

### ***Action Items***

J. Farrell presented the members that were appointed to the BoG for 2014 as an informational item. He also reviewed the members of the CSS Executive Committee and Nominating Committee for 2014 as additional informational items.

Y. Yamamoto presented the following motion:

- *Motion: Move to nominate Mathukumalli Vidyasagar as a Senior Editor of the new Life Sciences Letters.*

He provided some background and motivation for the appointment. He opened the floor for discussion. Y. Yamamoto asked for a vote, and the motion passed unanimously.

M. Fujita presented the following motion:

- *Motion to approve the venue and dates of the MSC 2015 as follows:  
Venue: Novotel Manly Pacific, Sydney, Australia  
Dates: September 21 (Mon.) - 23 (Wed.), 2015*

He asked I. Peterson to give a presentation on the venue. I. Petersen provided an overview of the venue, including: the costs of accommodations, local attractions, transportation, rooms for plenary lectures and session talks, and the weather. M. Fujita

asked for comments. Y. Yamamoto indicated that Japanese researchers would be very interested in the venue, so the conference should be advertised in Japan. The motion passed unanimously.

As an informational item, M. Fujita indicated that the dates of the MSC 2016 in Buenos Aires, Argentina were approved in the consent agenda as Tuesday – Thursday, September 20 – 22, 2016, with the pre-conference workshops scheduled for Monday, September 19. He further reminded the BoG that the consent agenda also established David A. Castañón as the Coordinating Program Chair, Patrizio Colaneri as the CCA Program Chair, Kevin Passino as the ISIC Program Chair, and Pedro Peres as the CACSD Program Chair for the MSC 2016.

M. Fujita then presented the following motion:

- *Motion to approve Stephen Yurkovich as the General Chair for CCTA 2017.*

He indicated that due to bad weather, S. Yurkovich was not able to attend the BoG. M. Fujita read some notes for the conference proposal. He indicated an August/September timeframe for the conference with potential venues including Hawaii or San Diego. He indicated that Mark Spong and Mario Rotea would also serve on the organizing committee as co-program chairs. He indicated that there would be an impact in attendance due to the IFAC World Congress. The strategy is to focus on the Pacific Rim to minimize the impact. There may be special sessions focused on industrial tracks.

He then presented the following related motion:

- *Motion to approve Mark W. Spong and Mario A. Rotea as the Co-Program Chairs for CCTA 2017*

There were no comments, and both motions passed unanimously.

M. Fujita then presented the following motion:

- *Motion to approve Richard H. Middleton and Dragan Nestic as the Co-General Chairs for CDC 2017*

M. Fujita asked R. Middleton to present a proposal for the conference. R. Middleton presented his and D. Nestic's biographies. D. Nestic then discussed the venue including: safety, a growing active controls community, previous success at other Australian venues, the weather, and planned activities and events. R. Middleton provided some additional discussion on the city of Melbourne and the ease of traveling to Melbourne. He described a convention center that is a possible venue. He also indicated that the state government would provide a \$150,000 (Australian dollars) grant to the CSS provided 1,100 people register for the conference, with a scaled reduction in grant funds with reduced registrations. M. Fujita asked if there were any comments. R. Bitmead agreed that Melbourne is a fantastic venue. R. Middleton and D. Nestic left the room. M. Fujita asked for a vote. The vote passed unanimously.

M. Fujita presented the following motion:

- *Motion to approve Jakob Stoustrup as the General Chair for CCTA 2018*

J. Stoustrup presented a preliminary proposal for Copenhagen, Denmark. He gave an overview of his service and organizational experience. He also provided an overview of Aalborg University where much of the local arrangements would be handled. He indicated that he is relocating to the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, but he does not view the position change as a challenge to his ability to organize the conference. He indicated that he will seek to fill some of the organizing committee with industrial members as a means to have a larger industrial pull. He provided an overview of the program. M. Fujita asked for comments. M. Fujita questioned J. Stoustrup about the proposed dates, and J. Stoustrup indicated that he is planning for August due to the favorable weather. M. Egerstedt spoke favorably of the venue. J. Stoustrup left the room. M. Fujita asked for a vote. The motion passed unanimously.

M. Fujita then presented the following motion:

- *Motion to approve a conference multi-year printer contract with Omnipress.*

He indicated that contract proposals were received from The Printing House and Omnipress. He indicated the proposals were similar. Omnipress was \$2000 more expensive but they were considered more professional based on our previous experience with The Printing House. J. Farrell indicated that there is a financial benefit to have a multi-year contract. M. Fujita asked for a vote. The vote passed unanimously.

F. Bullo presented the following motion:

- *Motion: To create a new Deputy Editor in Chief position for the IEEE Control Systems Magazine.*

He discussed the pros and cons for the position. He indicated that the person would be the de-facto Editor in Chief (EiC) in waiting. He indicated an advantage of having a deputy EiC is that the position provided additional experience. He indicated that CSS also has a precedent in the sense that the IEEE Transactions on Control of Network Systems (TCNS) has a deputy EiC. Y. Yamamoto asked if there will be a document that will specify the role of the deputy EiC. C. Cassandras indicated that in the 5 year review, CSS was required to provide IEEE with a description of each position. A. Annaswamy asked if the idea was to have this position as a means to groom the deputy. The motion passed unanimously.

F. Bullo then proposed a related motion:

- *Motion: To appoint Jonathan How as Deputy Editor in Chief for the IEEE Control Systems Magazine.*

He provided some motivation on why J. How was selected. He reviewed that R. Braatz provided support for the nomination. He provided an overview of his background. He

asked for comments. Several members spoke positively of the nomination. The motion passed unanimously.

F. Bullo also presented the following motion:

- *Motion: To renew the appointment of Professor Thomas Parisini as Editor in Chief for the IEEE Transactions on Control Systems Technology until December 31, 2017.*

F. Bullo presented some background for the motion. He indicated the desire to have T. Parisini stay through the 5 year review of the journal and to resynchronize the EiC position with the calendar year. He provided statistics of the journal that showed strong growth of the journal under T. Parisini's leadership. He opened the floor for questions. The motion passed unanimously.

K. Morris presented the following motion:

- *To elect Linda Bushnell as a Distinguished Lecturer.*

W. Dixon explained why the vote was on the regular agenda versus the consent agenda. There was no further discussion. K. Morris asked for a vote, and it passed unanimously.

F. Allgower mentioned that we have discussed the need to improve the presence of our society on Wikipedia. He reviewed that the CSS had recommended the use of technical committees (TCs) to oversee the related Wikipedia pages. He reviewed the difficulty of maintaining the pages, the lack of coverage of some areas by our TCs, the parallel effort by IFAC, and discussions with Wikipedia where Wikipedia discourages an individual, groups, or industries from taking control of a set of pages. These issues provide motivation for IFAC and CSS to work together to establish a joint editorial board. He then presented the following motion:

- *Motion: To approve the establishment of a joint CSS/IFAC editorial board "Wikipedia Editorial Board for Automatic Control".  
All CSS TC chairs and all IFAC TC chairs are members ex-officio.  
... to create the new position of a "CSS Wikipedia Editor".*

He provided further discussion related to the equality between IFAC and CSS, the timing and term of the editors, and motivation of the TC chairs as the members of the editorial board. He opened the floor for discussion. R. Bitmead asked if it is appropriate to include Wikipedia in the title, in the sense that Wikipedia may be replaced with something else in the future. K. Morris indicated that there are other social media outlets. But the focus of this effort is very specific. F. Allgower indicated that there is a possibility for the TC chair to even be part of the Wikipedia editors. C. Canudas de Wit asked if there is consideration to include other organizations such as EUCA. He indicated that logistically it may complicate the positions at this time, but that we should seek inclusion from other societies. F. Allgower indicated that when the board gets to a phase that more editors are included, that additional associations should be included. R. Bitmead indicated that we would need to include the full set of associations. The motion passed unanimously.

He then presented the following related motion:

- *To approve Jakob Stoustrup as CSS Wikipedia Editor.*

J. Stroustrup left the room. F. Allgower motivated the nomination, and opened the floor for discussion. M. Egerstedt asked about the appropriateness of having one person that is chairing the position in IFAC and the newly created CSS position. F. Allgower suggested that in the future the position does not need to be unified. The motion passed unanimously.

Y. Yamamoto presented the motions:

- *Motion: Move to revise the CSS Awards Manual regarding the basis for judgment for the Distinguished Member Award to “Significant technical contribution and outstanding long-term service to the Control Systems Society.”*
- *Motion: Move to revise the CSS Awards Manual regarding the basis for judgment for the Antonio Ruberti Young Researcher Prize to “Based on the research contributions of the nominee. Contributions to either the theory or applications of systems and control will be considered equally. The judgment will also consider the innovation, breadth and depth of the nominee’s research.”*

He indicated that there is currently no mention for the basis for judgment in the awards manual, and this motion serves to correct that issue. For the Ruberti award, he and R. Middleton discussed the basis for judgment with the Ruberti Foundation. R. Middleton indicated that there were inconsistencies in the webpage and awards manual. There was no discussion and the motions passed unanimously.

J. Farrell then presented an informational item related to a desire to eliminate the Membership and Public Information Standing Committee. Since the committee is mentioned in the CSS By-Laws, there will need to be a change in the By-Laws for the June meeting.

J. Farrell then presented the following motion:

- *Motion: To approve the revision of the CSS SIAM MOU*

He provided some motivation and historical reasons for establishing a new memorandum of understanding (MOU). He indicated that the previous and proposed MOU were included in materials for the BoG to consider in advance of the meeting. Since it is a MOU, there is a need for BoG approval. He asked for discussion. There was no discussion, and the motion passed unanimously.

W. Dixon reviewed the following motions that passed through electronic votes.

- *Motion: To appoint Professor Sonia Martinez as Associate Editor for the IEEE Transactions on Control of Network Systems, effective immediately.*
- *Motion: To appoint Professor Anant Sahai as Associate Editor for the IEEE Transactions on Control of Network Systems, effective immediately.*

## *Activity Reports*

### *Report of the President*

Y. Yamamoto began his report to the BoG by reminding the BoG of the IEEE/CCA J. Automatica Sinica proposal. He indicated the Phase I and Phase II proposals did not pass. However, the proposal did pass without a technical society oversight. He then provided an update on the ethics in publishing. In the June meeting the Publication Services and Products Board (PSPB) manual was revised to include a provision and language to prevent inappropriate manipulation of bibliometrics, e.g., Impact Factors. He indicated that a special session would be provided on Friday afternoon of the conference. He reviewed the issue of allocating expenses for Technical Co-Sponsored Conferences. He reviewed that there are real expenses and there is discussion within the IEEE Technical Activities Board (TAB) and Conferences Committee regarding how to allocate the charges. Changes may come in 2015. He provided an update with regard to the Life Sciences Technical Community. He indicated that the CSS is responsible for sending two candidates to this community to serve as their Steering Committee members. He also indicated that the inaugural issue of the TCNS collected over 120 papers that were eligible for the inaugural issue. Y. Paschalidis indicated that they have now reached approximately 150 submissions. He also indicated that there would be an informational session on the TCNS on Friday of the conference. Y. Yamamoto indicated that 2014 will be the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the CDC, and that there are planned activities.

Y. Yamamoto provided a review of the Divisions within IEEE, and that CSS is a member of Division X. He provided a brief overview of Division X activities, including the PSPB formal stance on bibliometrics. He indicated that CSS is a technical co-sponsor of the IEEE Transactions on Big Data. He provided additional details with regard to the IEEE/CAA Journal of Automatica Sinica. He explained why IEEE is interested in terms of the strategic importance of establishing partnerships with countries like China, India, and South America. He reviewed CSS's position with regard to the CAA proposal that ultimately did not pass. He indicated that the IEEE TAB approved the periodical and that IEEE and CAA would share the sponsorship of the journal. There will be a decision point after 5 years to continue or transfer ownership of the journal. He reviewed the current title and scope of the new journal. He discussed that Division X is open to discussion by maintaining an open channel with the society presidents.

### *Report of the President Elect*

J. Farrell reported on various issues discussed in the Long Range Planning Committee. He discussed the turnover of corporate knowledge within CSS. He also mentioned that the committee is examining a number of issues with respect to awards. They are also coordinating with Mike Polis on the history of the CSS. He described the agenda of the LRPC with respect to including: a review of the strategic plan, implementation of an archive method for the vice-president manuals and experiences, and likewise, an archive method for general chairs experience and data.

### *Report of the Vice President of Financial Activities*

E. Chong discussed the timing of the financial impact of motions. He then discussed the 2014 budget. He discussed how the 2014 budget was created based on an initial template provided by IEEE. He discussed how he increased the operating budget and introduced new initiatives. He received a revised budget from IEEE. He increased the volunteer travel for distinguished lecturers to reflect the increase voted on by the BoG in 2012. He also increased the membership committee line item from \$1,000 to \$45,000. The motivation for this change was to take the money out of the special projects category that was being inappropriately allocated. For example, the student conference support program was moved out of the initiatives to the recurring membership committee budget. Another change was due to the local area support program. He also increased the technical committee operating budget from \$5,400 to \$20,000. The rationale is that CSS has expenses for TC workshops. For initiatives, CSS has not always spent the allocated \$100,000. Another initiative included \$56,000 for grants to conferences for proceedings acquisition. The Life Sciences Technical Committee also received \$15,000 as an initiative. The operating budget changed slightly, but all three-budget changes were approved. The initiative funds for all societies were cut by half. The cut was due to a lack of funds to support all the initiatives, at the IEEE/TAB level. He put in an official request for replacing the cut funds, and it was rejected by IEEE. Y. Paschalidis asked where the cap on available money came from. E. Chong indicated that IEEE had a set allocation for initiatives. Y. Yamamoto asked when we would know the bottom line for 2013. E. Chong indicated that the bottom line for 2013 is that CSS has a projected deficit of \$500k. However, this amount is likely to be less than the investment income. For 2013, our expenses through October exceed our income by \$200,000. The CSS investment income is approximately \$600,000. The net worth of CSS, which is similar to our reserves, is approximately 7.5 M.

### *Report of the Conference Activities Board*

M. Fujita provided an update on the conference activities. He reviewed the upcoming conference from 2014-2016. He referred BoG members to the general chair reports. He reviewed the different conferences that had requested Technical Co-Sponsored (TCS) and those that had requested both TCS and Proceedings Acquisition (PA). He provided an update on the handling fees that are applied to conferences including \$200 for TCS with PA and \$500 for TCS without PA. He indicated that due to new IEEE charges, the fees will increase by \$500 for TCS without PA.

### *Report of the Vice President of Publication Activities*

F. Bullo indicated that he has been interacting with Dawn Melley, Director, Editorial Services, IEEE Periodicals, in terms of low quality reproduction of author supplied files. He indicated that the IEEE Transactions on Automatic Control will include Type-I fonts starting in the beginning of the year. However, the practice of making bitmaps out of

tables and images will take place in December of 2014. He reported that IEEE is about to implement the use of author supplied LaTeX without IEEE retyping the words.

#### *Report of the Vice President of Membership Activities*

K. Morris reviewed some of the general membership numbers, including trends in terms of geography, occupation, and post-graduation retention. T. Samad asked if the IEEE trend in membership retention is similar to CSS. Y. Yamamoto indicated that he received some positive feedback from comments in his president's message in the sense that some people contacted him saying that they had joined. R. Bitmead indicated that IEEE is providing less and less value. He also indicated that the IEEE Computer Society has a level of autonomy that other societies do not have because of their magnitude. He wondered how we can work to refocus IEEE on our needs. K. Morris commented that we need to examine ways to extend the benefit of being in CSS to our members; in particular for those do not attend the CDC and American Control Conference. She is exploring needs, networking, social media, career development, etc.

M. Polis, chair of the History Committee, has been collecting history and looking at how to save it in archival form. K. Morris commented that photos present a challenge, due to privacy issues, logistics with captions, etc. M. Polis has also been examining archiving some oral history in terms of lectures. He is asking for interviews with previous CSS presidents.

#### *Report of the Vice President of Technical Activities*

F. Allgower reported that we have nineteen technical committees. He was pleased with the level of activity by the TCs, and perhaps for the first time ever, CSS has reports from all the TCs. He discussed possible changes in TCs, including possible new TCs such as a new TC on Smart Cities. There was only one change in TC leadership. C. Canudas de Wit commented that there is an issue of Big Data. This may not be captured in our current TCs. Y. Paschalidis also indicated that there is an indication from the CDC program that machine learning and big data may be related. F. Allgower reviewed the formal process of proposing a new TC. C. Canudas de Wit suggested that we may need a zero sum game. F. Allgower reiterated that the LRPC is investigating what areas may not be covered by current TCs. M. Sznaier indicated that the TC on Computational Aspects of Control System Design and others are examining the use of Big Data.

#### *Other Business*

Y. Yamamoto asked if there was any new business. W. Dixon indicated that the next meeting would be June 3<sup>rd</sup> in Portland Oregon. Y. Yamamoto thanked elected and appointed BoG members whose terms are ending. He also thanked M. Fujita for his service as Vice President for Conference Activities. He presented certificates and plaques to members of the BoG whose terms of service were ending. The meeting adjourned at 4:40 PM.