

Minutes of the Control Systems Society Board of Governors Meeting
June 28, 2011
San Francisco, California

Call to Order and Approval of Agenda

R. Middleton called the meeting of the Control Systems Society (CSS) Board of Governors (BoG) to order at 1:00 PM on June 28, 2011, and asked the attendees to introduce themselves. The following members of the BoG were in attendance: Frank Allgöwer, Anuradha Annaswamy, Panos Antsaklis, Gary Balas, Dennis Bernstein, Francesco Bullo, Carlos Canudas de Wit, Christos Cassandras, Edwin Chong, Francis Doyle, Masayuki Fujita, Sam Ge, Oscar Gonzalez, João Hespanha, Ilya Kolmanovsky, Bruce Krogh, Richard Middleton, Pradeep Misra, Lucy Pao, Thomas Parisini, Ian Petersen, Greg Stewart, Mario Sznaier, Roberto Tempo, Maria Elena Valcher and Lihua Xie. Additionally, the following visitors attended the meeting: David Castañón, Warren Dixon and Joan Pratt.

Quorum was established and the agenda was approved with unanimous consent. Following approval of the agenda, R. Middleton 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.

Next, the minutes of the BoG meeting of December 14, 2010, held in Atlanta, Georgia were approved unanimously.

Action Items

Appointments

R. Tempo, Chair of the Nominating Committee started by informing BoG of the results of the 2012 BoG Election. The following nominees were elected to serve for a 3 year period, starting January 1, 2012: Carlos Canudas-de-Wit, Jay A. Farrell, Kristi A. Morgansen, Kristin Y. Pettersen, Mario Sznaier, and Andrew R. Teel. R. Tempo also informed BoG that Steve Yurkovich has been nominated for forthcoming elections for the position of Division X Director-Elect.

(At this point, Bullo, Cassandras, Chong, Dixon, Doyle, Fujita, Ge, Middleton left the room.)

Next, Tempo presented the following motion:

Motion to: *approve the slate of 2012 CSS Executive Committee nominees* [nominating committee]:

C. Cassandras (President); Y. Yamamoto (President Elect); R. Middleton (Past President); M. Fujita (VP Conference Activities, continuing); E. Chong (VP Financial Activities); Shuzhi Sam Ge (VP Membership Activities, continuing); Frank Doyle (VP Publication Activities, continuing); Francesco Bullo (VP Technical Activities, continuing); W. Dixon (Executive Director).

Following Tempo's presentation, G. Balas commented that he would prefer a slate with more than one nominee per slot. R. Tempo indicated that this issue has been discussed within the nominating committee. D. Castanon noted that there is a trade-off between having more candidates and finding good candidates willing to serve and qualified. O. Gonzalez and F. Allgöwer suggested that the committee announce the names of eligible people to the society and collect suggestions. Following this suggestion, Tempo listed the names of all eligible candidates. After this discussion, R. Tempo moved for the approval of the slate of 2012 Executive Officers, which was unanimously approved.

(After approval of the motion, Bullo, Cassandras, Chong, Dixon, Doyle, Fujita, Ge, Middleton returned to the meeting.)

Presentation on CSS arXiv:

The CSS arXiv Moderator(s) will facilitate and approve preprints for posting on the sections "Optimization and Control" (math.OC) and "Systems and Control" (cs.SY) of the arXiv.org server currently maintained by the Cornell University Library. The CSS arXiv Moderator(s) shall report to the CSS Vice-President for Publications.

R. Tempo reminded BoG of the history of the Systems and Control section of arXiv, <http://arxiv.org/list/cs.SY/recent>, initiated during summer 2010, and its mission: to provide a venue for immediate dissemination of ideas and results and an easily-referable place (with time stamp) for technical reports, manuals and extended versions of papers. R. Tempo also provided some statistics on the number of downloads during 2010: 11357 downloads for cs.SY and 210147 for math.OC. It seems that the number of downloads from industry for these sections is 20 to 30% higher than the arXiv average. At the present time, the systems and control section is moderated by Marco Lovera, Roberto Tempo and Yuan Wang who inspect the papers for suitability before authorizing posting. Tempo remarked that there is no peer review process involved and that papers are not checked for technical correctness. Following R. Tempo's presentation, G. Balas asked whether posting in arXiv will preclude submission to a journal. R. Tempo indicated that the CSS does not regard arXiv as prior publication, and that the main issues are the copyright and posting of final versions of published papers. The exact policy differs slightly amongst different publishers. R. Tempo reminded BoG of the panel discussion that took place at the last CDC on E-print servers and noted that a complete report as well as the publisher's policies can be found at <http://www.ieeecss.org/main/publications/miscellaneous>. R. Middleton remarked that, although the CSS cannot make a ruling for the IEEE on copyright issues, de facto arXiv posting is not preventing publication in the society's journals and conferences.

Motion to establish position of CSS arXiv Moderator(s)

After the discussion on CSS arXiv, R. Tempo left the room. R. Middleton presented the following motion.

Motion to: *establish the new position of CSS arXiv Moderator(s)* [executive committee].

A vote was taken and the motion passed, with one vote against (G. Balas) and one abstention (D. Bernstein).

Appointment of CSS arXiv Moderators

Next, R. Middleton presented the following motion.

Motion to: *approve the appointments of Marco Lovera, Roberto Tempo, and Yuan Wang as CSS arXiv Moderators for 2011* [executive committee].

The motion was unanimously approved by BoG.
(R. Tempo returned to the meeting.)

Conference Activities Motions

Masayuki Fujita, VP for Conference Activities, presented three motions related to conference appointments.

MSC 2013 Preliminary Budget

Motion to: *approve the MSC 2013 Preliminary Budget* [executive committee].

P. Misra (Conference Vice-General Chair) reminded BoG that the MSC 2013 will be held in Hyderabad, India, August 26-28 2013. The conference registration rate for members has been set at \$450, \$50 higher than the 2011 CDC. However, the conference registration includes all lunches. The higher registration rate also reflects the needs to pay for the conference venue.

G. Balas raised the issue of whether this registration rate will be too high for local attendees. P. Misra responded that it is expected that local people will be subsidized by CSS, through the mechanisms in place for supporting conferences in developing countries.

After this discussion, a vote was taken and the motion was unanimously approved.

MSC 2013 (CCA and ISIC) Program Chairs

Motion to *approve Prof. Dr.-Ing. Sebastian Engell, Process Dynamics and Operations Group, Department of Biochemical and Chemical Engineering, Technische Universitaet Dortmund, Germany, as 2013 CCA Program Chair* [executive committee].

Motion to *approve Prof. Stephen Yurkovich, Jonsson School of Engineering and Computer Science, University of Texas at Dallas as 2013 ISIC Program Chair*[executive committee].

M. Fujita gave a brief presentation highlighting the qualifications and experience of the candidates. After this presentation, a vote was taken and both motions unanimously approved.

MSC 2013 Coordinating Program Chair

Motion to *create the position of Coordinating Program Chair (CPC) for the 2013 MSC. The CPC will coordinate the overall structure of the technical program, maintain uniformity in acceptance rates across conferences, and, if necessary, facilitate forming sessions with papers of a common topic from different conferences* [executive committee].

M. Fujita gave a brief explanation of the need and rationale for the CPC position. In the past, in some instances there has been a lack of program coordination amongst the three subconferences, with duplicated tracks on the same topic. In addition, acceptance rates across conferences sometimes exhibit considerable variability. The goal of the CPC will be to avoid these situations by coordinating the review and program formation efforts. At the moment, this position will be effective only for the 2013 MSC. If the experiment is successful, then the CSS may consider creating a permanent position.

Following M. Fujita's presentation, C. Canudas de Wit raised the issue of whether the society should suggest acceptance rate bounds for the conference. M. E. Valcher noted that typically the smaller conferences (ISIC, CACSD) have higher acceptance rates due to the smaller number of submissions. P. Misra indicated that in his opinion, uniformity in the acceptance criteria should be done by having the cutoff around the same quality. G. Balas asked for a clarification on the difference between the duties of the General Chair and the CPC. M. Fujita answered that the GC has more organizational type responsibilities. M. E. Valcher asked for a clarification on the interaction between the CPC and the Program Chairs of each individual conference. M. Fujita indicated that the Program Chairs will still propose the plenary speakers and decide on the Program Committees. The role of the CPC is to act as a facilitator and try to achieve consensus. However, if need be, the CPC can make the final decisions on program issues. After this discussion, a vote was taken and the motion approved with one abstention (C. Canudas de Wit)

MSC 2015 General Chair and Venue

Next, M. Fujita presented the following two motions related to the 2015 MSC:

General Chair MSC 2015

Motion to: *approve Ian Petersen as the General Chair of the MSC 2015* [executive committee].

Ian Petersen left the room and, M. Fujita gave a short bio of him, highlighting relevant experience. After this presentation a vote was taken and the motion unanimously approved.

MSC 2015 Venue

Motion to *approve Sydney, Australia as MSC 2015 Venue* [executive committee].

Next, M. Fujita invited I. Petersen to give a presentation describing the proposed venue. Petersen highlighted the features of Sydney, including easy connectivity to most of the world, in many cases with non-stop flights. The proposed date (September) avoids the tourist season, while still having reasonably good weather (close to the beginning of spring in the austral hemisphere). At the moment, 2 venues are being considered:

- (i) The convention center, close to Darling Harbor and most hotels (site of the 2000 CDC). The only drawback is cost, since the conference will have to pay to use the facility. In this case, the registration rate is expected to be around \$650 for CSS members
- (ii) The UNSW campus. It has nice facilities, but it is not too close to the city center. In this case the estimated registration rate will be around \$500 for members.

Following Petersen's presentation, G. Balas inquired whether there is a concern about attendance, given the relatively high costs. L. Xie asked whether the proposed date (September) will impact attendance, since many people in the US and Europe will already be teaching. I. Petersen responded that attendance is not a concern and that September seems to be standard for the MSC. After this discussion a vote was taken and the motion unanimously approved.

Publication Activities Motions

TCST Page Budget Increase

Frank Doyle, VP for Publication Activities, presented the following motion.

Motion to: *increase the 2011 and 2012 IEEE Transactions on Control Systems Technology page budget to 1700 pages.*

Financial Impact: \$20,000 per year [executive committee]

F. Doyle indicated that since 2004 the number of papers has doubled, resulting in a current full year backlog. Raising the page budget by 200 will get the backlog down to 4 issues. G. Balas noted that the financial impact could be less than the stated 20K, since by publishing more papers the number of explore hits could go up. F. Doyle remarked that at the moment the first consideration should be how to serve the society best. G. Balas asked whether it would be better to have a temporarily even higher page budget until the backlog is reduced. T. Parisini (TCST Editor in Chief) replied that the journal gets penalized if it publishes less papers than budgeted, so four issues seems a good compromise. He also noted that with 1700 pages, the journal is getting close to the "bindable" maximum. After this discussion a vote was taken and the motion unanimously approved.

Other Motions

CDC 50th Anniversary Budget:

Next, R. Middleton presented a motion to approve the budget for activities related to the CDC 50th Anniversary.

Motion to: *approve an expenditure of not more than \$200,000 for events to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the IEEE Conference on Decision and Control. The expenditure will be used to cover:*

- *A CDC Anniversary Reception open to all attendees*
- *Travel, registration and 2 nights' accommodation costs for CDC VIPs (past General Chairs, cosponsoring organizations)*
- *CDC 50th Anniversary lunch for VIPs*

[executive committee]

After presenting the motion, R. Middleton briefly reviewed the budget and some of the planned activities. Professor R. Bitmead has agreed to act as "master of ceremonies" for a special session on the history of the CDC. Professor Michael Athans, the oldest surviving CSS president and instrumental in the creation of the CDC has confirmed that he will participate in this session. The history of the CDC will also be featured in a special issue of the Control Systems Magazine. R. Middleton acknowledged that the cost of these activities is not trivial. However, at the moment the society's reserves are about twice the level recommended by IEEE, and it can afford these activities. After this presentation a vote was taken and the motion unanimously approved.

Long Term MOU with PaperCept

(P. Misra left the meeting)

R. Middleton presented the following motion related to a long term MOU with PaperCept;

Motion to: *have the CSS enter into a five year agreement, as detailed below, for continuing provision of conference software services (PaperPlaza) and related web hosting services with PaperCept Ltd. for CDC, MSC, ACC, for the period 2012 to 2016. The agreement includes:*

- (i) *hosting at cost on PaperCept servers.*
- (ii) *PaperPlaza at a discount from the rack rate;*
- (iii) *5 year contract; guaranteed maximum rate of rise.*

Financial Impact: No direct financial impact on CSS budget, indirectly, approximately \$22 per attendee increase in conference registration costs for ACC, MSC and CDC, total \$50Kp.a.
[executive committee]

The motion was seconded by R. Tempo and R. Middleton proceeded to give some background information. Currently there is no formal long term arrangement with PaperCept. A task force was set up last year to investigate (Panos Antsaklis, Christos Cassandras, Dave Castanon, Jay Farrell, Rick Middleton(chair), Russ Rhinehart (added as AACC rep in March 2011), Roberto Tempo, and Steve Yurkovich. Initial discussions within the Task Force and with Pradeep Misra in February 2011 led to several suggestions:

- i. split the agreement into two agreements: Conferences & TACO
- ii. PaperCept to provide both hosting (dedicated server costs etc.) and software system (PaperPlaza).

Note: due to Conflict of Interest, Pradeep Misra has not been involved in any Task Force or ExCom discussions, except as representing PaperCept. These discussions led to the agreement in the motion. AACC is involved since PaperPlaza is used for ACC. Possible arrangements with AACC include: (i) A 3 way MOU; (ii) Two separate MOUs (one for ACC, the other for MSC/CDC), or (iii) an agreement between PaperCept and CSS with separate agreement between CSS and AACC. (option (iii) preferred by AACC). R. Middleton noted that alternative systems to PaperCept were explored. A description of the features needed for our conference operations was prepared and several requests for 'budget estimates' were sent. Two responses were received:

1. One response (*SoftConf*) was substantially cheaper than PaperPlaza, but lacked many of the existing features, and would have required extensive customization.
2. Another response (*ePapers*) was slightly cheaper than the PaperCept offer. However, it did not include some features such as integrated payment and paper upload systems, registration cross checks, plagiarism detection.

Based on an analysis of these responses, the committee recommended continuing using PaperCept, since it has been developed and tailored to CSS's specific needs. Alternate systems, would involve some or all of:

- Additional work for us to adapt to and use a different system
- Additional costs for significant customization.

The committee noted that the CSS operates very much as a volunteer society (low cost overheads, many people volunteering their time) and spending on high quality conference support systems helps reduce the volunteer burden. Individual discussions with Alessandro Astolfi (Chair of the Conference Editorial Board) and Thomas Parisini (past CEB chair) were consistent with the view of the committee.

Following R. Middleton's presentation, the motion was discussed by BoG. G. Balas asked how much is CSS paying now to PaperCept for handling CDC and whether there are provisions in the MOU for additional conferences. R. Middleton answered that currently CSS is not paying PaperCept for processing CDC papers, but that this situation is not sustainable. At the present time there are no provisions in the MOU for conferences other than those financially sponsored by the CSS (CDC, MSC) and the ACC. Ian Petersen asked whether we could use a cheaper product, eliminating some features. R. Middleton answered that these features are there primarily to eliminate excessive submissions, uncertainty on the registrations, etc. B. Krogh asked for clarification of the rationale for making conference software services the one thing where we pay for a service instead of using volunteers. R. Middleton answered that the size of our conferences makes it hard to process the papers and registration on a volunteer basis. M.E. Valcher noted that she is serving as registration chair for the 2011 IFAC World Congress and checking manually whether there is at least one registration associated with each paper is a "nightmare". B. Krogh indicated that in his opinion conference registration fees should not go up and the additional cost should be borne by the conference. J. Hespanha suggested having the CSS bear the cost directly rather than billing the conferences. R. Middleton indicated that such an approach would be fine at present since the CSS finances are healthy but that he did not want to commit the society to an extra cost indefinitely. M. Sznaiar indicated that in his opinion the extra cost should be charged to the conference, rather than having the entire CSS membership subsidize the conference

attendees. G. Balas and J. Hespanha suggested a hybrid model where the society covers parts of the cost by providing a fixed contribution and charging the conference a co-payment per paper. At this point J. Hespanha offered the following amendment to the original motion:

Proposed Amendment: *The CSS will cover up to 40K/annum of these costs.*

The amendment was seconded by G. Balas. M. E. Valcher noted that it will be better to have the society cover a percentage of the costs rather than contributing a fixed cost. B. Krogh then proposed a friendly amendment (to the motion to amend) of having the society covering 80% of the cost of using PaperCept. The friendly amendment was accepted by J. Hespanha. At this point G. Balas noted that there are two different issues:

- (i) The contract with PaperCept; and,
- (ii) How CSS funds it.

B. Krogh then indicated that the motion should be kept “clean”, containing only the contract between PaperCept and CSS and that the VP for Conference Activities should work out a model to charge the conferences for services provided and bring it up to BoG for approval at a later date. At this point, J. Hespanha withdrew his amendment and offered a friendly amendment to the original motion where it will state the financial impact to the society at \$50Kpa, without going into specifics of who will bear this cost. The amended motion read:

Motion to: *have the CSS enter into a five year agreement, as detailed below, for continuing provision of conference software services (PaperPlaza) and related web hosting services with PaperCept Ltd. for CDC, MSC, ACC, for the period 2012 to 2016. The agreement includes:*

- (i) *hosting at cost on PaperCept servers.*
- (ii) *PaperPlaza at a discount from the rack rate;*
- (iii) *5 year contract; guaranteed maximum rate of rise.*

Financial Impact: \$50Kp.a.

This revision was accepted by R. Middleton as a friendly amendment. A vote was taken and this amended motion was unanimously approved.

Structure of the MSC

(P. Misra returned to the meeting)

P. Misra proposed the following motion related to the structure of the MSC:

Motion to: *change the MSC from its present structure (3 different conferences each with individual proceedings) to a single conference, with 3 tracks and a single set of proceedings.*

[P. Misra, 2nd M. E. Valcher]

R. Middleton noted that historically the MSC brought together conferences that were organized by different Technical Committees and we need to seek input from them before making a decision. S. Ge asked for a clarification of the mission of the MSC. P. Misra indicated that in his recollection the MSC was initially created as an umbrella to keep these conferences financially healthy. W. Dixon asked whether the issue of having 3 different sets of proceedings can be separated from organizational aspects. P. Misra answered that both issues are intertwined. He clarified that under his proposal for a single set of proceedings, it will still be possible to indicate the track in which papers appeared. O. Gonzalez suggested that the VPCA should take the lead in generating a proposal and bringing it to BoG. He noted that in the past IEEE wanted to keep the longevity of the CCA. R. Middleton indicated that at this point several options were available to BoG: vote on the motion, table it, or refer it to a specific committee (e.g. Conference Activities Board or ExCom). C. Cassandras moved that it be referred to the Excom. A vote was taken and the motion to refer to ExCom was approved, with one vote against (G. Balas) and two abstentions (M. E. Valcher and M. Sznaier).

Motions Approved via Email

M. Sznaier, CSS Executive Director, reminded BoG that motions passed via email votes are formally recorded in CSS archives. Between the December and June BoG meeting, 3 motions were discussed and approved by BoG:

1. Motion to approve continuing Technical Committee Chairs for 2011

2. Motion to nominate Christos Cassandras as American Automatic Control Council Director (for IEEE CSS) 2011 and Tariq Samad as alternate Director 2011
3. Motion to appoint 3 new Technical Committee Chairs.

Activity Reports

Report of the President

R. Middleton, CSS President, started his report to BoG by providing an update on the IEEE Policy for Elections of Officers. IEEE TAB had previously introduced a policy (see http://www.ieee.org/documents/tab_operations_manual.pdf, Section 4.2.5) that: “The number of candidates on a slate for Society Officer, AdCom and BoD elections shall be no less than one and a half times the number of vacant positions.” Middleton stated that CSS has several times sought clarification from IEEE of what this implied for CSS, since the CSS does not typically have a ‘slate’ for society officers, and they are not elected by the membership. The Society Sentinel (sent by IEEE to Society Presidents et al), 13 April 2011 (V16, N7), includes the statement: “All Society elections for which the entire Society membership casts a vote must follow the TAB Operations Manual Section 4.2.5”. Regarding the CSS, this only affects the election of BoG members and we are in compliance as long as we follow our current practice of having at least nine candidates for the six available positions. Middleton noted that in the future, it is advisable that the CSS changes its nomenclature (Constitution and by-laws) to note that other positions are nominations (from the nominating committee) that are submitted for appointments by BoG. (Currently, the terms ‘elect’ and ‘election’ are used frequently for presidents, vice presidents and other roles within CSS that are not voted on by the membership).

Next, Middleton gave a brief update on the status of the Periodicals and Society reviews. He indicated that materials have been submitted for the 5 year review of our periodicals: The IEEE Transactions on Automatic Control; The IEEE Transactions on Control Systems Technology and the Control Systems Magazine. Further details on the outcome of the review will be provided by Frank Doyle, the VP for Publication Activities. Separately to this, the CSS will be reviewed as a society by the IEEE in November of this year, and preparations for this will begin shortly.

After covering the society review, Middleton updated BoG on the status of the proposed name changes in several of the IEEE Systems, Man and Cybernetics Society journal. Middleton reminded BoG that the SMC society has made a request to the IEEE Technical Activities Board to change the names of several of their journals. This follows a similar proposal last year that was opposed by several societies including CSS. One of these name changes was to change from the current: “IEEE Transactions on Systems, Man and Cybernetics, Part A: Systems and Humans” to “IEEE Transactions on System Science and Engineering” During this year’s Feb TAB meeting (and subsequent emails and telephone conversation with the president of SMC), it has become clear that the SMC wished again to propose this same name. The SMC society stated they do not wish to encroach on other areas, and has offered MOUs giving other societies some limited rights on the editorial board. The CSS Executive Committee has discussed this issue and is strongly opposed to this proposed name change. R. Middleton indicated that the CSS has made its objections to IEEE known and that he has also contacted other IEEE Societies that are opposed to this name. Several societies that have voiced opposition to the proposed name change. The proposed name change was narrowly defeated at the IEEE periodicals committee level.

Next, Middleton gave a brief update on the status of the CSM Archive. At the December 2010 Board of Governors meeting, it was noted that a Control Systems Magazine archive had been created. However, subsequent to the meeting, it was also noted that this archive might violate IEEE Copyright, since this is held centrally by IEEE and not by societies. The archive was temporarily taken off-line whilst the CSS sought clarification on whether it was permitted to host this material. Following two attempts to obtain clarification, and hearing no objections, the society returned to having this material online at <http://www.ieeecss.org/CSM/csm.html>.

R. Middleton thanked Dennis Bernstein for his initiative in creating this important repository of past articles, interviews and letters.

Following the update on the CSM archive, Middleton raised the issue of non-compliance of the current CSS field of interest with IEEE guidelines. The current statement reads:

This society focuses on the theory, design and application of control systems. It shall encompass components, and the integration of these components, as are necessary for the construction of such systems. The word 'systems' as used herein shall be interpreted to include physical, biological, organizational and other entities, and combinations thereof, which can be represented through a mathematical symbolism. The field of interest shall include scientific, technical, industrial or other activities that contribute to this field, or utilize the techniques or products of this field, subject, as the art develops, to additions, subtractions, or other modifications directed or approved by the IEEE Technical Activities Board (TAB).

According to IEEE Technical Activities Board rules, this is too long, and must be reduced to no more than 75 words. Several alternative statements were discussed by BoG. Following subsequent email discussions with BoG, the following new Field of Interest statement has been submitted to IEEE:

The interests of this society are in systems and control with an emphasis on theory, design, optimization and applications. The area encompasses sensing, communication, decision and actuation components, and their integration as necessary for the synthesis of dynamical systems and control. The systems considered include, but are not limited to, technological, physical, biological, organizational and other entities, and combinations thereof.

The society focuses on the theoretical and technological underpinnings of the discipline.

Middleton noted that the process of changing the FOI statement is somewhat complex, since it entails changing part of the constitution of the society, and also requires IEEE Technical Activities Board approval. It was decided that after a tentative FOI is drafted and given provisional BoG approval, Middleton will seek approval from the IEEE TAB. After this approval is granted, then definitive BoG approval will be sought and the society's constitution changed accordingly.

(Subsequent note: there have been objections raised by IEEE TAB to some parts of this statement, and some further revisions may be necessary).

Report of the President Elect

C. Cassandras, CSS President Elect, gave a brief summary of the findings and recommendations of the Task Force on Ethical Violations in Publishing. Most of these violations concern authors overlapping their own papers, rather than plagiarism which remains infrequent. It seems that the instances of ethical violations are increasing and thus the society is now actively monitoring submissions for overlapping with previous papers, through the use of automated tools. Cassandras reminded BoG that this process is dangerous since it can produce many false alarms. Given the sensitivity of the matter, the output of these automated tools needs to be carefully analyzed before further actions are taken.

Next, Cassandras addressed the broader issue of the future of the control field, challenging the group to think of ways in which "control" could attain higher visibility among scientific institutions and certain US funding agencies. Perhaps it is time to emphasize the breadth of activities of the society and strive for a broader definition of the field. An option is to put emphasis on Systems.

Report of the Past President

R. Tempo (CSS past president) started his report by informing BoG that two galleries of award winners have been created on the CSS web site. These galleries can be accessed at: <http://www.ieeecss.org/main/awards/control-systems-field-award> and <http://www.ieeecss.org/main/awards/hendrik-w-bode-lecture-prize-gallery-2>. Some of the associated acceptance speeches are also available on this site. Next, R. Tempo indicated that the CSS Online Lecture Library, www.ieeecss-oll.org, now includes videos and slides of some classical Bode Lectures. In addition to Gunter Stein's inaugural 1989 Bode Lecture "Respect the Unstable", the 1992 Bode Lecture of Brian Anderson "Controller Design: Getting from Theory to Practice" and the 2001 Bode Lecture of Alberto Isidori "Finesse et Géométrie" are now available. The slides of the 2002 Bode Lecture of Eduardo D. Sontag "The ISS Philosophy as a Unifying Framework for Stability-Like Behavior" and of the 2004 Bode Lecture of Tamer Basar "Games, Decision and Control: Fifty Years Back, Fifty Years Forward" have been also posted on the site.

Report of the Vice President, Conference Activities

Masayuki Fujita, VPCA started his report to BoG by reviewing the new guidelines approved by the CSS Executive Committee for granting Technical Co-Sponsorship to conferences. TCS request fall into three categories:

- (1) Requests from established conferences such as Allerton, MED, SICE. These can be approved after a brief discussion and confirmation.
- (2) Smaller, “specialists” conferences with a specific technical domain. These cases can be approved by obtaining an endorsement from a TC or by having a CSS representative involved in the conference, in cooperation with the VPTA.
- (3) Regional/Local conferences, with key CSS person(s) involved. These are harder cases since they involve an outreach component. In this case there is a need to balance this component against quality. These requests can be granted after having a quality check by a CSS representative working in cooperation with the VPMA.

Next, M. Fujita briefly reviewed the list of conferences that were granted TCS in the period Jan. - Jun. 2011. These include:

MMAR 2011, Allerton 2011, NETGCOOP 2011, ICSTCC 2011, SmartGridComm 2011, ICAT 2011, *SMFG 2011*, ICCA 2011, VSS '12, CCC 2012 and WODES 2012.

M. Fujita referred BoG members to his written report for more details. Following this review of Technical Co-Sponsorship, M. Fujita presented some new features of CSS conferences: starting in 2011 conference proceedings will be provided in flash drives. In addition, starting with CDC-ECC 2011 a new reviewing process has been put in place allowing selected papers to undergo through a rebuttal round. Authors are given a period of 10 days to submit a revised version with a brief *rebuttal* letter. Finally, also new with CDC-ECC 2011 is the implementation of a mechanism in PaperPlaza to automatically check submissions for ethical violations. M. Fujita finished his presentation by referring BoG to his written report for updates on the status of upcoming conferences.

Report of the Vice President, Publication Activities

Frank Doyle, VPPA highlighted some of the publications related activities that have taken place since the last BoG meeting.

All of the society’s publications were reviewed in June (immediately prior to the CSS BoG meeting) as part of the 5 year review of the Society. The review was extremely positive, with all our journals achieving “best in class” metrics, compared with the peer group. In fact, some of the practices from our journals (for example the Associate Editors selection process) are being adopted as best practices. The only negative comment from the review is related to the number of administrative rejects, which, while still within guidelines is higher than what IEEE would like to see. F. Doyle finished his brief report by providing some statistics on the journals and data on on-going activities, and referring BoG to the written report for more details.

- TCST continues to see a rise in submissions (rise of 36% from 2008 to 2010). Acceptance rates declined slightly, to a healthy 25% (from historical average of about 30%). The time to a first decision shows improvement, as evidenced in the TCST EiC’s report.
- TAC has also seen a rise in submissions over the last several years (for full papers and technical notes combined). Acceptance rates remain a healthy 16% and 26%, respectively. Citation metrics are excellent for TAC, including the H-index from Google Scholar (243, well above all competitors in the CSS field).
- Both TAC and TCST have some very impressive download statistics. In 2010 TAC averaged 40 downloads/paper while TACST had over a 100 downloads/paper. (Note, these statistics are for every paper ever published in the respective periodical that was downloaded in the year 2010).
- Regarding the CSM, the transition plan for the new EiC (Richard Braatz) is in good shape. Multiple topical issues are in production. A CDC 50th anniversary issue is under development (for Dec 2011).
- Recent and planned special issues of the society’s publications include:
 - Applied LPV Modeling and Identification (TCST, Jan 2011)
 - Delay systems (CSM, Feb 2011)
 - Wireless Sensor and Actuator Networks (TAC, in progress)
 - Quantum Control (TAC, in progress)
 - Advanced Servo Control for Emerging Data Storage Systems (TCST, planned)

Report of the Vice President, Membership Activities

Shuzhi Sam Ge, Vice President for Membership Activities, started his report by reviewing a motion on student membership, endorsed by ExCom, which was originally going to be submitted for BoG approval. This motion proposed giving free CSS membership to any IEEE student member, and, to mitigate the financial impact, stipulated that starting in 2012, student members would receive only an electronic version of the Control Systems Magazine, rather than the present paper copy. However, after this motion was approved by ExCom, it was noted that the IEEE TAB had already approved all 2012 membership prices and offerings, so no changes can be accommodated at this time. For 2013 and beyond, IEEE is considering changing its membership program by instituting a “Society Membership Bundle”. Until these changes are finalized, IEEE will not allow for changes in the society’s membership offerings. S. Ge indicated that at the present time, the CSS has 1,089 IEEE student members (770 graduate student members, and 319 student members). For comparison, the total number of IEEE student members is 51,000, out of which 39,000 are graduate students. S. Ge also presented general membership trends. After reviewing these trends, G. Balas expressed concern about dropping numbers in the U.S. M. E. Valcher noted the need for initiatives that encourage students to join the society and stay. For instance, we could have differential rates for CSS student members at our conferences. This is allowed by present IEEE policies.

Next, S. Ge gave an update on the society’s distinguished lecturer program. Four new lecturers have been approved by ExCom: Jose Geromel (Brazil), Maria Elena Valcher (Italy), Sarah Spurgeon (UK), and Fernando Paganini (Uruguay). In addition, ExCom approved a one year extension (until the end of 2011) of the terms of distinguished lecturers Lucy Pao, Mathukumalli Vidyasagar and Bassam Bamieh.

Following this update, S. Ge reviewed the status of the CSS Support Programs. The CSS Developing Nations Conference Support Program (DNCSP) (2011-2014, with the budget \$40,000 p.a.) will fund reduced registration costs for any attendee from a developing nation who attends an MSC or CDC held in a developing nation. The goal of this program is to give support for reduced registration costs to a larger number of attendees from a developing nation, where they may be able to find their own low cost accommodation and transport. Conference organizers should note that the intent of this program is not to reduce registration costs to zero, and to carefully monitor no-shows to limit abuse of the program as a cheap way of getting a paper in the conference proceedings. S. Ge also noted that developing nations, along with others, are welcome to submit proposals separately to the outreach task force. The list of countries whose residents qualify for financial support under the CSS Developing Nations Conference Support Program is available at:

http://www.ieee.org/membership_services/membership/join/member_countries.html. This list includes Croatia (MSC 2012) and India (MSC 2013), and the conference organizers are encouraged to apply for support. Next, S. Ge updated BoG on the status of the Local Area Support Systems (LASS): In 2011, LASS supported

- (i) the IEEE Oregon Section CSS/IMS Chapters Activity: IEEE Oregon Virtual Worlds Symposium, 11 March 2011 in Portland, Oregon, Chaired by Roger Ellingson, and
- (ii) the IEEE Argentina Joint Chapter activity: Workshop on Information Processing and Control, Nov 16-8, 2011 at National University of Entre Rios, Argentina, Chaired by Cristian De Angelo.

S. Ge concluded his report by encouraging students to apply for Student Travel Support to attend the 2011 CDC-ECC. More information on this program can be obtained by contacting Professor Sandra Hirche, Student Activities Chair.

Report of the Chair of the Task Force on Outreach

G. Balas, Chair of the Task Force on Outreach gave a short summary of the status of the CSS outreach fund: Five proposals have been received for the current cycle and it is anticipated that out of these two or three will be funded. G. Balas noted the need for better advertisement in order to increase the number of submissions. F. Bullo asked about the criteria used by the task force to evaluate and prioritize proposals. G. Balas replied that the task force gives higher priority to new initiatives and those involving developing nations, support for young students coming into the field, or joint support of the activities. Proposals for activities that have been going on for years and have other sources of support are typically not funded. G. Balas finished his presentation by reminding BoG that another call for proposals is out, with proposals due in November. He encouraged prospective applicants to contact him for feedback.

Report of the Executive Director

M. Sznaier, CSS Executive Director, reminded BoG that the next Bog meeting will be held on Sunday, December 11, 2011 Orlando, Florida, USA, at the 50th CDC.

Adjournment

R. Middleton thanked the members of the Board of Governors and visitors for attending the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 6:00 PM

Appendix A.

Consent Agenda

IEEE CSS
Board of Governors Meeting
June 28, 2011

Conference Editorial Board Appointments

Motion to: *approve the new and continuing Associate Editors for the Conference Editorial Board (CEB) (new appointments to start July 1, 2011) [executive committee].*

Amir Aghdam
Shun-ichi Azuma
Stefano Di Cairano
Guoqiang Hu
Inseok Hwang
Kenji Kashima
Yeesock Kim
Ji-Woong Lee
Savvas Loizou
Justin Chee Khiang Pang
Johann Reger
Yang Shi
Chee Pin Tan
Ligang Wu

Continuing Associate Editors, and biographies for new appointees were listed in the consent agenda papers.

IEEE Transactions on Automatic Control Associate Editor Appointments:

Motion to: *approve the new Associate Editors for the IEEE Transactions on Automatic Control (TAC) [executive committee]*

Randy Beard
Franco Blanchini
Maria Letizia Corradini
Emilio Frazzoli
Chris Hadjicostis
Tomomichi Hagiwara
Loo Hay Lee
Claude Moog
Girish Nair
Asu Ozdglar
Christophe Prieur
Hyungbo Shim
Luca Zaccarian

IEEE Transactions on Control Systems Technology Associate Editor Appointments:

Motion to: *approve the new Associate Editors for the IEEE Transactions on Control Systems Technology (TCST) [executive committee]*

Aman Behal
Kenneth Butts
Giuseppe De Nicolao
Huijun Gao
Fouad Giri

Alexander Horch
Eric Kerrigan
Petr Korba
Ian Petersen
Jie Yu
Xiaodong Zhang
Argyrios Zolotas

Background to the motion:

10 AEs are stepping down in 2011 (end of term)

8 AEs are stepping down in 2012 (end of term)

Need for an increase of the number of AEs from industry (challenging)

Liaison Representative to the IEEE Society on Social Implications of Technology

Motion to: *approve Meng Chu Zhou as Chair of Liaison Representative on IEEE Society on Social Implications of Technology (SSIT)[executive committee]*