Minutes of the Control Systems Society Board of Governors Meeting July 7, 2025

Denver, Colorado, USA

1. Call to Order and Approval of Agenda

President Carolyn Beck welcomed all attendees to ACC 2025, and initiated all-participant introductions. She called the meeting of the Control Systems Society (CSS) Board of Governors (BoG) to order at 1:06 PM MDT on July 7, 2025. She then reminded BoG about the objectives of the meeting. Meeting procedures were reviewed including the mechanism for voting on motions. The following members of the BoG were in attendance:

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-	Beck, C.	-	Isaksson, A.	-	Pena, P.				
-	Coogan, S.	-	Johansson, K.	-	Rudie, K.				
-	Di Bernardo, M.	-	Jungers, R.	-	Sandberg, H.				
-	Dong, D.	-	Knorn, S.	-	Serrani, A.				
-	Egerstedt, M.	-	Mesbahi, M	-	Tegling, E.				
-	Fekih, A.	-	Nair, G.	-	Vernekar, P.				
-	Ferrara, A.	-	Oishi, M.	-	Xie, L.				
-	Fregene, K.	-	Onori, S.						

Additionally, the following visitors attended the meeting:

- Fromm, J.

How, J.

- Krstic, M.

- Ozay, N.

- Ishii, H.

The agenda is available at: http://bog-excom.ieeecss.org/

The agenda was approved unanimously.

President Beck clarified the expectations for BoG members:

She reminded BoG members of their commitment to serve by attending two in-person meetings per year:

- ACC (or ECC or CCTA - more on that later) and CDC.

She emphasized the importance of thoroughly reading the materials provided prior to the meeting. She also provided an overview of meeting procedures, including the use of Robert's Rules of Order and the process for voting on motions using name tents. Background information was given on how these rules were adopted by the Society.

Logistical Details:

The following logistical items were reviewed:

• Quorum: Established

• Voting Method: Name tents were used to facilitate voting

• Consent Agenda: Introduced as part of efficient meeting management

• Voting Requirement: A majority of present members are required to pass simple motions

• Travel Support: CSS provides \$1,200 for domestic travel and \$1,600 for international travel. Members must retain and submit all receipts via Concur for reimbursement.

Beck introduced a revised meeting format, already adopted in the previous two years, beginning with a financial summary to better inform the group about the current financial standing and set the stage for strategic decisions.

2. Approval of Minutes

Quorum was established, and the meeting agenda approved. Next, a motion to approve the minutes of the BoG meeting from December 15, 2024 (Milan, Italy) was presented.

Seconded by: Egerstedt Abstention: Fregene

The motion passed.

Motion to approve the record of the e-motion

Seconded by: Johansson

The motion passed unanimously.

3. Approval of Consent Agenda

Motion to approve the consent agenda Seconded by: Fekih

The motion passed unanimously.

Action Items

VP-Finance Activities: Jonathan How

CSS Financial – Financial Overview:

How began with a dual-purpose presentation: to report on the Society's financial status and to provide that data in a clear and engaging format.

How reported the following financial details:

- Overall, CSS financial status is very healthy.
 - FM14 23: Revenue: \$8,653K, Expenses: \$7,131K, Surplus: \$1,488K (budget \$603K)
 - FM14 24: Revenue: \$8,337K, Expenses: \$6,940K, Surplus: \$1,398K (budget \$388K)

How reviewed what these figures represent for the Society's financial health and discussed future fiscal planning.

Conference Financials:

CDC 2024

- Surplus: €143K
- Additional Expenses: Over €150K (plus €70K for student hotel costs)
- CSS Share of Costs: Approx. €90K
- Obligated 2025 Initiatives: Already exceed \$355K

Reserves and Society Funds:

- Reserves (End of 2023): \$27,133K (up 14% from 2022)
- Society Fund (End of 2024): \$732K

How explained that while the reserves serve as a cushion, funds in the reserve are difficult to access directly.

210230-Control Systems	T	otal Revenue		Т	otal Expense			Net	
FM14-24	Annual Budget	YTD Budget	YTD Actual	Annual Budget	YTD Budget	YTD Actual	Annual Budget	YTD Budget	YTD Actual
All Products									
Magazines	169K	169K	179K	429K	429K	391K	259K	259K	213K
Journals Transactions Rev	3,296K	3,296K	3,328K	2,264K	2,264K	1,975K	1,032K	1,032K	1,354K
Letters	566K	566K	619K	408K	408K	409K	158K	158K	210K
Periodical Packaged Produ	1K	1K	1K	6K	6K	6K	5K	5K	5K
Conference Events	1,241K	1,241K	1,221K	1,007K	1,007K	1,094K	234K	234K	127K
Conference Proceeding	2,662K	2,662K	2,749K	1,540K	1,540K	1,512K	1,122K	1,122K	1,237K
Society Membership	135K	135K	139K	4K	4K	9K	131K	131K	130K
Total Product	8,070K	8,070K	8,236K	5,658K	5,658K	5,395K	2,412K	2,412K	2,841K
Cost Centers									
ExCom						127K			127K
Membership Committee				2K	2K	2K	2K	2K	2K
Awards Committee				8K	8K	1K	8K	8K	1K
Societies Operations				1,464K	1,464K	1,157K	1,464K	1,464K	1,157K
Meetings /Conference	18K	18K	102K	243K	243K	255K	225K	225K	154K
Society Initiatives				325K	325K	3K	325K	325K	3K
Total Cost Center	18K	18K	102K	2,042K	2,042K	1,545K	2,024K	2,024K	1,443K
Total From Operations	8,088K	8,088K	8,337K	7,699K	7,699K	6,940K	388K	388K	1,398K
IEEE Reserve Allocation						1,930K			1,930K
Grand Total	8,088K	8,088K	8,337K	7,699K	7,699K	5,010K	388K	388K	3,327K

How stressed the need to actively find ways to spend the surplus effectively. The goal is to utilize the funds before they accumulate further in the reserves.

Egerstedt inquired why the Society could not dramatically lower registration rates (e.g., "\$5 conferences"). How responded that while conference revenue is crucial, spending is subject to IEEE rules that prohibit direct payment of member fees but allow spending on activities that indirectly benefit members.

CSS Revenue (FM14 2024):

- CSS revenue is primarily from journals and conferences.
- The Control Systems Magazine (CSM) loses money, which is acceptable given its outreach mission. CSS generates sufficient revenue from other journals to cover this loss.
- OJCS has become profitable
- Conference revenue significantly benefits from download clicks on IEEE Xplore.

FM14 2024	Reveni	ue	Expe	nse	Net		
	budget	actual	budget	actual	budget	actual	
Control Systems Magazine	169K	179K	(429K)	(391K)	(259K)	(213K)	
Trans on Automatic Control	2,141K	2,186K	(1,394K)	(1,286K)	747K	900K	
Trans on Control Systems Tech	753K	753K	(522K)	(412K)	232K	341K	
Transactions on Control of Net	360K	354K	(278K)	(250K)	82K	104K	
Open Journal of Control System	41K	36K	(69K)	(27K)	(29K)	9K	
Control Systems Letters	566K	619K	(408K)	(409K)	158K	210K	
Conference Distributed Package	2,662K	2,749K	(1,540K)	(1,512K)	1,122K	1,237K	

Fregene inquired about the allocation of surplus funds generated by a conference. How clarified that such funds are returned to the relevant account. He added that money from the operating budget is used to cover any conference costs not met by revenue.

Coogan raised a question regarding the budget versus expenses versus actuals. The low number of papers being published (OJCS) has led to reduced expenses. In response to an inquiry about what's included in expenses, it was clarified that these cover publication costs and the editorial assistant expenses. The overall sentiment is positive as long as income exceeds expenditures.

2025 Budget - June 24

210230 - Control Systems		FY23		FY24		FY25
	Total Plan		Total Plan		Total Plan	
		Actual		Budget		Budget
Meetings /Conference	\$	69	\$	18	\$	18
Society Membership	\$	139	\$	135	\$	135
Control Systems Letters	\$	480	\$	566	\$	566
Trans on Automatic Control	\$	2,313	\$	2,141	\$	2,141
Trans on Control Systems Technology	\$	822	\$	753	\$	753
Transactions on Control of Network Systems	\$	346	\$	360	\$	360
Open Journal of Control Systems	\$	30	\$	41	\$	41
Control Systems Magazine	\$	180	\$	169	\$	169
Conference Distributed Package Products	\$	2,768	\$	2,662	\$	2,662
(CDC)Conference on Decision and Control	\$	1,279				
Other Conference Events	\$	-	\$	1,241	\$	1,241
(CCTA)Conference on Control Technology ar	\$	166				
Operational Revenue	\$	8,653	\$	8,088	\$	8,088

210230 - Control Systems		FY23		FY24		FY25
	Total Plan		Total Plan		Total Plan	
		Actual		Budget		Budget
Societies Operations	\$	1,323	\$	1,464	\$	1,464
Meetings/Conference	\$	271	\$	243	\$	243
Control Systems Letters	\$	301	\$	408	\$	408
Trans on Automatic Control	\$	1,401	\$	1,394	\$	1,394
Trans on Control Systems Technology	\$	471	\$	522	\$	522
Transactions on Control of Network Systems	\$	247	\$	278	\$	278
Open Journal of Control Systems	\$	130	\$	69	\$	69
Control Systems Magazine	\$	427	\$	429	\$	429
Conference Distributed Package Products	\$	1,401	\$	1,540	\$	1,540
(CDC)Conference on Decision and Control	\$	863				
Other Conference Events	\$		\$	1,007	\$	1,007
(CCTA)Conference on Control Technology ar	\$	226				
Operational Expenses	\$	7,131	\$	7,374	\$	7,374

FY'25 "first pass" budget – final will differ slightly

Motions:

Ferrara presented the bylaws amendment process. She emphasized the importance of reading the constitution and that it is a good practice for BoG members. Link was provided.

Amendment to the constitution can be adopted by a $\frac{2}{3}$ vote for the BoG. Formal notice was sent to the BoG by the CSS President on $\frac{6}{18}$ 25. She emphasized that no bylaws change will take effect until it is approved by the IEEE TA VP.

With 31 BoG members present, a ½ majority required 21 votes.

President Beck presented the following motion:

• Motion: To modify the CSS Bylaws: Article III Section 1. Annual Meeting

Endorsed by: Executive Committee

Financial Impact: None

Currently stated as: The Board of Governors shall hold two meetings per year, one during the American Control Conference and one during the Conference on Decision and Control.

To read instead: The Board of Governors shall hold two meetings per year, the first held during either the American Control Conference, the European Control Conference, or the Conference on Control Technology and Applications, and the second held during the Conference on Decision and Control. The site of the first meeting for year X will be determined by the Executive Committee prior to the first meeting of year X-1.

The purpose of this Bylaw change is to support stronger representation at CSS conferences and more choice for conferences in- and outside the U.S. Beck noted that there will be a year's notice given so that there is enough time for people to submit papers to the respective conference.

Fregene emphasized that the matter concerns both timing and practicality, highlighting the importance of selecting conferences and dates that are most suitable for the membership. Karen Rudie spoke in support of the motion, but raised the need to balance inclusivity and equity for attendees from all countries with environmental considerations such as travel-related carbon footprint. Mesbahi added that the Society already supports a good number of European conferences through its Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs), which generates some conference revenue back to CSS. Coogan discussed conference scheduling timelines, noting that they are often set years in advance and need to be formally codified to accommodate planning cycles. Egerstedt commented that there was an asymmetry in the Society's schedule, noting that although it is an international organization, it tends to default to American venues. He stated that the update simply reflects the Society's global nature and affirmed that it is the right step forward.

The motion passed unanimously.

The next step is to go to IEEE with this motion to change the Bylaws.

Past President Egerstedt presented the following motion:

• <u>Motion:</u> To modify the CSS Bylaws: Article I, Section 3-4 (timing of BOG candidate selection)

Financial Impact: none

Endorsed By: Executive Committee

Current:

Section 3. Nominations. On or before April 1, the Nominating Committee shall submit to the Director of Operations of the Society names of willing candidates for elected positions on the Board of Governors that must be filled on January 1 of the following year. The number of Committee nominees plus those nominated by petition should total at least 50% more than the number of elected positions that must be filled. In accordance with IEEE Bylaws, the duties of the Nominating Committee shall also include the submission of nominations for the office of Division Director to the IEEE and the annual solicitation of names of potential candidates to be considered by the IEEE for service on IEEE Committees and Boards.

Prior to the December Board of Governors meeting, the Nominating Committee will provide the names of three members to be appointed to the Board of Governors for a two- year term commencing on January 1 in the following year. These appointed members should reflect the perceived needs and aspirations of the Board of Governors in terms of diversity such as of experience, professional sector (academe, industry, other), gender, geographic region, or other factors. No further approval of their appointment is necessary.

Section 4. Ballots. On or before April 15 the Director of Operations shall mail to the appropriate IEEE office the ballot information containing all the nominees for election to the Board of Governors, including those submitted by the Nominating Committee and those properly nominated by petition, for management of the election.

Proposed:

Section 3. Nominations. On or before **June** 1, the Nominating Committee shall submit to the Director of Operations of the Society names of willing candidates for elected positions on the Board of Governors that must be filled on January 1 of the following year. The number of Committee nominees plus those nominated by petition should total at least 50% more than the number of elected positions that must be filled. In accordance with IEEE Bylaws, the duties of the Nominating Committee shall also include the submission of nominations for the office of Division Director to the IEEE and the annual solicitation of names of potential candidates to be considered by the IEEE for service on IEEE Committees and Boards.

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Section 4. Ballots. On or before **June** 15 the Director of Operations shall mail to the appropriate IEEE office the ballot information containing all the nominees for election to the Board of Governors, including those submitted by the Nominating Committee and those properly nominated by petition, for management of the election.

The meeting of the Nominating Committee takes place in conjunction with the Spring ExCom meeting and nominations are typically made after the current April deadline. Updating the date will improve consistency and allow time for a more thorough selection process.

**The following individual was requested to recuse themselves from the meeting, and invited back in after the discussions: Jonathan How

Past President Egerstedt presented the following motion:

• Motion: To appoint Jonathan How as President for 2027-2028 and President-elect for 2026.

Financial Impact: none

Endorsed By: Executive Committee

Egerstedt reviewed How's extensive accomplishments and leadership experience within the Society, particularly as VP for Financial Activities. He emphasized that Jon How has demonstrated strong fiscal leadership, clarity in communication, and a collaborative approach to Society-wide challenges.

The motion passed unanimously.

How re-entered the meeting.

**The following individual was requested to recuse themselves from the meeting, and invited back in after the discussions: Andrea Serrani

Past President Egerstedt presented the following motion:

• <u>Motion:</u> To re-appoint Andrea Serrani as VP Publication Activities for 2026, i.e., for one additional year.

Financial Impact: none

Endorsed By: Executive Committee

Egerstedt noted that Serrani has a strong track record managing complex publication activities. His experience is critical, particularly as CSS navigates editorial transitions across multiple journals.

Serrani re-entered the meeting.

Fregene asked whether it might be possible to appoint Serrani to a two-year term rather than one. Beck responded that while that is technically possible, the current motion was only for a one-year term, and any change would need to be presented as a separate motion.

This item can be an element for discussion for the Long Range Planning Committee.

Note: Now there is a financial implication on the following motions because the appointed candidates are not already part of the board, so it is an extra cost for the transition period for them to attend meetings.

Past President Egerstedt presented the following motion:

• Motion: To appoint Venkataramanan "Ragu" Balakrishnan as VP Financial Activities for 2026-2027.

Financial Impact: up to 6k USD

Endorsed By: Executive Committee

Egerstedt noted that Balakrishnan has deep experience in financial planning, attention to detail, and a clear passion for governance. He emphasized the need for someone who is "numbers-driven and mission-aligned."

The motion passed unanimously.

Past President Egerstedt presented the following motion:

• <u>Motion:</u> To appoint Silvia Mastellone as VP Diversity, Outreach and Development Activities for 2026-2027.

Financial Impact: up to 6k USD

Endorsed By: Executive Committee

Mastellone already plays a major role in managing CSS diversity and outreach activities. She is heavily involved in proposal development and project execution. Johansson added that Silvia was already very much involved, describing her as proactive and someone who demonstrated great initiative.

The motion passed unanimously.

**The following individual was requested to recuse themselves from the meeting, and invited back in after the discussions: Raphaël Jungers

Past President Egerstedt presented the following motion:

• Motion: To appoint Raphaël Jungers as VP Conference Activities for 2026-2027.

Financial Impact: up to 6k USD

Endorsed By: Executive Committee

Egerstedt noted that Jungers brings considerable experience in planning and technical leadership. di Bernardo highlighted Raphaël's strategic thinking and clear understanding of CSS event planning.

The motion passed unanimously.

Jungers re-entered the meeting.

Egerstedt then presented the 2026 CSS Executive committee:

IEEE

The 2026 IEEE CSS Executive Committee



President: Carolyn Beck



President-elect: Jonathan How



Director of Operations: Antonella Ferrara



VP-FA: Ragu Balakrishnan



VP-PA: Andrea Serrani



VP-CA: Raphaël Jungers



VP-DODA: Silvia Mastellone



VP-TA: VP-MA:
Mario di Bernardo Necmiye Ozay





Past President Egerstedt presented the following motion:

• Motion: To appoint Luca Zaccarian as Director of Operations for 2027-2030.

Financial Impact: up to 12k USD

Endorsed By: Executive Committee

Due to the multidimensional nature of this role, Luca Zaccarian will begin shadowing the current Director, Antonella Ferrara, in 2026 to ensure a smooth transition. This transition period includes active participation in 2026 BoG and ExCom meetings.

Ferrara strongly endorsed Zaccarian, stating that he had had the pleasure of working with Luca and was confident he would thrive in the role. He emphasized that Luca possessed the attention to detail, judgment, and initiative needed for the position.

The motion passed unanimously.

VP for Conference Activities: Lihua Xie

VP for Conference Activities Lihua Xie presented the following motions:

• **Motion:** *To approve updated budget for CDC 2025*

Endorsed by: ExCom

Financial Impact: Projected Surplus of 56K USD (5% of expenses)

Xie noted that when the preliminary budget was first presented (at ACC 2023), key financial information was unavailable. The updated budget now projects a surplus of \$56K, or about 5% of total expenses.

INCOME	\$1,126,730	EXPENSES	\$1,070,683
Registration fees	\$957,230	Management	\$14,400
Grants, Donations	0	Registration	\$32,540
Conf. Publications	\$46,800	Proceedings	\$7,521
Exhibits	\$26,000	Local Arrangements	\$399,240
Social Events	\$0	Food & Beverage	\$363,866
Workshops	\$46,700	Program	\$105,711
Other (e.g., loan, interest)	\$50,000	Administration	\$55,965
		Audit Fee	\$8,000
		Committee	\$13,360
Surplus	\$56,048 (5%)		

Egerstedt added that he was excited to see the Society aiming for a 5% surplus, noting that this reflected a willingness on the part of CSS to absorb some risk rather than placing the full responsibility on the local organizing committee. Beck asked Xie to clarify why a surplus lower than expenses is not acceptable. Xie replied that IEEE does not permit a negative surplus, so while CSS can accept lower profits, the Society must still operate within the break-even/surplus framework.

The motion passed unanimously.

• <u>Motion:</u> To approve the International Conference Center Hiroshima as the venue for CCTA 2027.

Endorsed by: ExCom Financial Impact: None

All the BoG members were in favor of the venue selection.

The motion passed unanimously.

• Motion: To approve the dates of August 23-25 for the 2027 CCTA.

Endorsed by: ExCom Financial Impact: None

All the BoG members were in favor of the proposed dates.

The motion passed unanimously.

• Motion: To approve the budget for CCTA 2027

Endorsed by: ExCom

Financial Impact: Projected Surplus of 29,059.07 USD

Beck asked for clarification on the projected surplus percentage. Xie estimated a 10% surplus, based on expected attendance and cost structure. Fregene asked for anticipated attendance numbers. Xie noted that CCTA is typically smaller in scale, but efforts will be made to boost participation.

• Motion: To approve Lisbon as the location for CDC 2027

Endorsed by: ExCom Financial Impact: None

Xie gave an overview of location and BoG members were all in favor of the choice of the location.

The motion passed unanimously.

• Motion: To approve Lisbon Congress Center (CCL) as the venue for CDC 2027

Endorsed by: ExCom Financial Impact: None

Xie gave an overview of the venue He noted that the venue was the only location in Lisbon capable of hosting a CDC-scale event. How raised concerns about the financial impact, questioning whether choosing the only available venue was wise. The discussion further highlighted the need to avoid selecting locations that offer only a single suitable venue in the future. Egerstedt added that this was a good example of why it was important to have information about the venue and financial impact before selecting a location. He emphasized that, going forward, this needed to be incorporated into the site selection process.

How made a motion to table the vote until financial impacts could be re-assessed. Fekih seconded the motion to table the motion

The motion to temporarily table the current motion (*To approve Lisbon Congress Center as the venue for CDC 2027*) passed unanimously.

• **Motion:** To approve Dec. 14-17 as dates of CDC 2027

Endorsed by: ExCom Financial Impact: None

Some concerns were raised (visa, room sizes, room flexibility).

Beck specifically asked about room flexibility — can the 34 rooms be broken into smaller spaces? Xie believed it was possible, but he was not entirely sure.

How emphasized the need to keep CDC to 3 days to reduce costs, noting that 4-day formats dramatically increase travel expenses. Tegling shared How's concerns, and brought up the possible trade-off with a slightly higher rejection rate to fit all accepted papers.

Egerstedt urged caution regarding the Board of Governors interfering with the structure of the technical program, emphasizing that the General Chair and Technical Program Committee should be empowered to make those decisions. Beck suggested this raises broader issues for future discussion — e.g., 3 vs 4 days, acceptance rates, and venue flexibility. Xie proposed making a firm decision now regarding 3 vs 4 days for this specific year, even if the decision for future years is difficult to make now.

How, Tegling, Egerstedt, and Mesbahi abstained from voting in the motion.

The motion passed.

• Motion: To approve the preliminary budget for CDC 2027

Endorsed by: ExCom

Financial Impact: projected surplus of 123,631 Euro (9.56%)

Xie gave an overview of the proposed budget rationale:

- A/V costs are expected to be higher than in past year
- The venue is isolated, with few nearby restaurants.
- The organizing committee proposed offering lunch boxes for all 4 days.

Banquet dinner transportation was debated:

Coogan asked if there was transportation planned. Ozay confirmed that dinner is in the city center, where most attendees will be staying, and there are plenty of transportation methods for those not staying in the main hotel.

Fregene asked whether preferred hotel rates were secured. Beck clarified that this is still a preliminary budget and will be revised. Xie stressed the need for budget approval one year in advance per IEEE policies.

How, Tegling, Egerstedt, and Mesbahi abstained from voting in the motion.

The motion passed.

Tabled motion: Motion to approve Lisbon as the location for CDC 2027

BoG members reconsidered the previously tabled motion. A short discussion followed.

2:56 PM - break

Meeting resumed at 3:15pm

Continuation of VP Conferences motions:

- *Beck left the room for discussions of this motion, as this is a COI
 - Motion: To approve Geir E. Dullerud as the General Chair for CDC 2029

Endorsed by: ExCom Financial Impact: None

Egerstedt reinforced Dullerud's qualification, highlighting his extensive editorial and committee experience, as well as his proven leadership in CSS conference organization. Fregene asked whether he should abstain due to a potential conflict of interest. This was noted but not pursued further.

The motion passed unanimously.

*Beck re-entered the room for the remaining motions

• Motion: To approve Lei Guo as the General Chair for CDC 2030

Endorsed by: ExCom Financial Impact: None

Guo's credentials were reviewed, including longstanding service to the CSS community and deep technical expertise.

No further discussions.

The motion passed unanimously.

• Motion: To approve Hong Kong as the location for CDC 2030

Endorsed by: ExCom Financial Impact: None

Xie shared highlights of the city, including accessibility, venue infrastructure, and pricing comparisons of hotels close to the possible venue. Knorn noted that, following the venue debate surrounding Lisbon, she appreciated that the Hong Kong presentation included comparative hotel pricing and detailed information on meeting space. She suggested that in the future, chosen locations should allow flexibility for venue updates. Egerstedt asked about parallel session capacity. Xie confirmed this would not be an issue with the proposed venue.

Johansson asked about accommodations for handling large numbers of submissions from Chinese authors and whether CSS had a plan similar to what was done with the Chinese Control Conference in the past. Xie replied that based on history, submissions could range from 3,000 to 5,000, and proper editorial handling will be arranged accordingly. How compared the venue to Lisbon, noting that the Hong Kong option felt much more comfortable and well thought out. He added that the lesson to be learned was to provide detailed venue information early. Coogan asked about the role of TCCT, which helps organize conferences in China. Xie confirmed that volunteers from TCCT will help with logistics, and that no payment will be required since their support is volunteer-based.

The motion passed unanimously.

• <u>Motion:</u> To approve the CEB Editorial Assistant budget for the period of September 1, 2025 to December 31, 2026

Endorsed by: ExCom

Financial Impact: 93,000 Euros

Xie presented the background: Christophe Prieur will take over from Amir Aghdam as the CEB Chair starting from January 2026. He has requested for a full-time editorial assistant with an annual budget below:

65K Euros for admin assistant (gross and taxes included)

5K Euros overhead (reduced overhead, including the money management)

Calculated as 70K Euros × 1.333

Dong asked if this role compares with EAs for journals. He noted that CEB workload is significantly higher due to tight review timelines. Serrani explained that conference submissions are "one shot," while journals have rolling workflows. Many papers get rejected at prescreen, but the load is intense. How mentioned that he has never personally spoken with the EA and suggested this is something to improve moving forward. Serrani noted that CEB EAs are mostly active during peak months and not year-round so maybe the same EA could also support CCTA, which currently has no EA assigned. Ferrara agreed and emphasized it would be beneficial to make it transparent what the EA's responsibilities actually are in case of conference editorial boards.

VP for Member Activities Necmiye Ozay presented the following motions:

• Motion: To approve César A. Uribe as the CSS Student Activities chair (starting August 1, 2025)

Endorsed by ExCom. Financial impact: None

Uribe was praised for his engagement with student events and CSS education programs. No other discussion for this motion followed, since all BoG members were in favor of the appointment.

The motion passed unanimously.

• <u>Motion:</u> To increase to 30k USD the annual budget allocation for NextCom (effective 2025)

Endorsed by ExCom.

Financial impact: 10k USD per year

Di Bernardo remarked that the financial impact is within expected ranges.

Coogan asked what the funds are being spent on. Ozay explained it supports social and networking events at conferences. Egerstedt praised NextCom, describing them as a valuable and very active part of CSS, but noted that they needed to be well-organized financially. He emphasized that it was important for them to take ownership of their budget. Beck added they went over budget last year due to higher-than-expected participation.

Tegling asked if inflation warranted an increase beyond \$30K. Ozay replied saying that they had actually requested more, but the leadership suggested starting at \$30K to gauge their management. Dong asked if there are any activity reports available. Ozay confirmed reports are being filed and will continue.

The motion passed unanimously.

VP for Technical Activities: Mario di Bernardo

VP for Technical Activities Mario di Bernardo presented the following motions:

• <u>Motion</u>: To approve the merge of the TC on Power Generation into the TC on Energy Systems

Endorsed by: Executive Committee

Financial Impact: 5k USD saved!

Di Bernardo informed that the chair of the TC will continue to be the current chair of the TC on Energy Systems.

Egerstedt praised the motion, stating that it was a great example of consolidation working and noted that it also had the rare benefit of saving money.

The motion passed unanimously.

• <u>Motion:</u> To approve the creation of the new TC in Control and Optimization in Food and Agriculture

Endorsed by: Executive Committee

Financial Impact: \$3K to cover expenses for meeting +\$2K to support TC initiatives

Di Bernardo explained that proposal is well aligned with priorities highlighted in "Control for societal-scale challenges: ROAD MAP 2030" where "food and agriculture" is listed as one of the key challenges that our society needs to address as the systems and control community may (and shall) play a major role.

All the BoG members were totally in favor of the creation of the new TC.

The motion passed unanimously.

• <u>Motion</u>: To approve the creation of a new CSS Outstanding Technical Committee Award Endorsed by: Executive Committee

Financial Impact: \$2K per year

Di Bernardo illustrated that this award is inspired by similar awards in other societies. The award will go to the TC itself, not individuals. How asked if this is an incentive to increase TC activity, which di Bernardo confirmed. How then suggested a rephrasing and raising the amount to \$2K (initially the proposal was \$1K). The amendment was approved and then the motion written as it appears in these minutes was considered for approval.

Fregene noted that during his tenure as TC chair, expenditures appeared to be relatively modest, and he inquired whether there had been a change in that regard. In response, Di Bernardo explained that he is currently in contact with all TC Chairs to better monitor TC expenditures and encourage all TCs to spend the funding allocated to them for more initiatives.

VP for Diversity, Outreach, and Development Activities: Karl H. Johansson

VP for Diversity, Outreach, and Development Activities: Karl H. Johansson presented the following motions:

• Motion: To increase the CSS Outreach Fund Budget for 2025 from \$120K to \$160K

Endorsed by: Executive Committee

Financial Impact: 40K USD

A brief discussion followed. All the BoG members were totally in favor of the proposal.

The motion passed unanimously.

• Motion: To allocate a budget of \$160K for the IEEE CSS Outreach Fund in 2026

Endorsed by: Executive Committee

Financial Impact: 160K USD

No discussion on the motion followed, since all the BoG members were totally in favor of the proposal.

The motion passed unanimously.

Egerstedt expressed his genuine enthusiasm, saying he was thrilled to see the outstanding progress and impact of the initiative.

Informational Items

IEEE CSS VP for Financial Activities Jonathan P. How

How presented a financial summary of CSS for 2023 and 2024

Overall, CSS financial status is very healthy.

FM14 23: Revenue: \$8,653K, Expenses: \$7,131K, Surplus: \$1,488K (budget \$603K) FM14 24: Revenue: \$8,337K, Expenses: \$6,940K, Surplus: \$1,398K (budget \$388K)

CSS Reserves as of 2023 total \$27,133K (up 14% from 2024)

-Integral of surplus + investments (controlled by IEEE)

2025 Society Initiatives

Project Name	2025 Budget (\$K)
CSS Child-care and Disability Assistance Initiative	20
CSS Outreach Projects	120
CSS Student Travel Awards	165
Women In Control Luncheon	20
NextCom	20 -> 30
Total	355

Summary Budget report

210230-Control Systems	Т	otal Revenue		T	otal Expense			Net	
Summary Report For Period Ending May-25	Annual Budget	YTD Budget	YTD Actual	Annual Budget	YTD Budget	YTD Actual	Annual Budget	YTD Budget	YTD Actual
All Products				'					
Magazines	169K	76K	67K	429K	154K	159K	259K	78K	92K
Journals Transactions Rev	3,296K	1,428K	1,298K	2,264K	989K	909K	1,032K	439K	389K
Letters	566K	236K	225K	408K	163K	175K	158K	73K	50K
Conference Events	1,241K	0K	11K	1,007K	0K	27K	234K	0K	16K
Conference Proceeding	2,662K	1,109K	1,093K	1,540K	642K	631K	1,122K	468K	462K
Society Membership	135K	131K	135K	4K	4K	4K	131K	127K	131K
Total Product	8,070K	2,981K	2,830K	5,658K	1,955K	1,907K	2,412K	1,027K	923K
Cost Centers									
ExCom	0K	0K	0K	0K	0K	1K	0K	0K	1K
Membership Committee	0K	0K	0K	2K	0K	0K	2K	0K	0K
Awards Committee	0K	0K	0K	8K	0K	1K	8K	0K	1K
Chapter Committee	0K	0K	0K	0K	0K	20K	0K	0K	20K
Societies Operations	0K	0K	0K	1,789K	657K	514K	1,789K	657K	514K
Meetings /Conference	18K	7K	62K	243K	120K	111K	225K	113K	50K
Society Initiatives	0K	0K	0K	0K	0K	3K	0K	0K	3K
Total Cost Center	18K	7K	62K	2,042K	778K	644K	2,024K	771K	582K
Total From Operations	8,088K	2,989K	2,892K	7,699K	2,733K	2,551K	388K	255K	341K

YTD - surplus of \$341K

Editorial Service Assistant (ESA)

How emphasized the importance of spending this money and ensuring spending it correctly. Back payments due to universities for 2 years of unpaid ESA work have distorted the current year's budget. The net result is we are paying 2x the amount this year and next.

How also brought up that an ESA Overlap will be useful during transitions for training. Going forward, overlap periods for ESA transitions will be built into budgeting proactively.

2025 inputs from IEEE

IEEE has eliminated the old 1%, 3%, 50% spending rules.

How will attend a budgeting meeting at the end of July and return with updates on the new model.

Fregene asked about the transparency of spending. How noted that it is hard to see real-time expense data and explained that bills from some conferences do not appear until months later, making it easy to miss potential overspending unless closely tracked.

How added that all expenses will be coded to Society Ops (21015). He will work with Fromm on routing the account to the correct committees.

Summary of current situation:

How informed the group that visas have been an issue for conferences already, as 38 presenters that could not attend ACC'25 to give their talks. Given that that the situation arose after the registration date, it did not impact ACC'25 too severely, but he added that there will be risks in holding conferences going forward, such as CDC'25 and CCTA'25. However, he suggested that it would be better for now for CSS to take on that risk as a society (and not pass additional costs on to the attendees) and by ACC'26, we will have a better idea of the situation and the new budget processes. We can reassess our overall approach at that time.

IEEE CSS VP for Publication Activities

Andrea Serrani

Serrani provided updates on editorial transitions and contracts across:

- CSM: Yearly contract, executed. Expires 12/25. To be renewed in fall.
- TCNS: Yearly contract, executed. Expires 12/25. To be renewed in fall.
- LCSS: 3/yr contract, executed. Expires 12/27. No action needed.
- OJ-CSYS: 3/yr contract, executed. Expires 12/27.
- TAC: Current contract expires 12/25.
- TCST: Current contract expires 12/25.

Editorial Service contracts for TAC and OJ-CSYS

Serrani talked about the transition to a new EiC (Miroslav Krstic) in January 2026. The transition will commence in Oct 2025. Krstic and his new EA will work with current EiC and EA. He shared that a candidate has been identified - Jennifer Klam, who is the current EA for OJ-CSYS. The current EiC of OJ-CSYS, Sonia Martinez, and the upcoming EiC of TAC will discuss percentages of time split between the publications.

Editorial Service contract for TCST

Serrani informed the group that the current EA's contract for TCST expires in December 2025, however, the current EA (unexpectedly) submitted resignation on June 11, 2025. A new EA candidate has already been identified. They are an Independent Contractor with a yearly contract.

Editorial Service contract for L-CSS

Serrani let the group know of the trouble with executing this contract. Because the new contract was not executed by January 1st, 2025, during the first 3 months of 2025 the previous EA of L-CSS continued providing support. Therefore, an honorarium for the amount of \$5K has been granted to the previous EA of L-CSS as compensation for her services.

IEEE CSS VP for Conference Activities Lihua Xie

Xie provided an overview of IEEE TCS Conferences

Starting from this year, the past proceedings of the conference are checked to ensure the paper quality. This happens once every 3 years for events which have already co-sponsored in the past.

Approved TCS Conferences to date for 2025 and 2026

- 1. ICRCA 25: 2025 the 9th International Conference on Robotics, Control and Automation, Shanghai, China, 10-12 Jan, without PA
- 2. ANZCC25: The 2025 Australian and New Zealand Control Conference, Gold Coast, Australia, 30-31 Jan., with PA
- 3. EECI 25: EECI International Graduate School on Control, International, 27 Jan 4 July, without PA
- 4. CCDC 2025, The 37th Chinese Control and Decision Conference, Xiamen, China, May 16-19, with PA
- 5. WiOpt 25: International Symposium on Modeling and Optimization in Mobile, Ad Hoc and Wireless Networks, Linköping, Sweden, May 26-29, with PA
- 6. ICUAS 25, 2025 International Conference on Unmanned Aircraft Systems, UNC Charlotte, Charlotte, NC, USA, 14-17 May, with PA
- 7. MED 25, 33rd Mediterranean Conference on Control and Automation, Tangier, Morocco, Jun 10-15, with PA
- 8. CPDE25: Control of Systems Governed by Partial Differential Equations, Beijing, China, 18-20 June, without PA
- 9. ICCA 2025: The 19th IEEE International Conference on Control & Automation, Tallinn, Estonia, June 30-July 3, with PA
- 10. ECC 2025: European Control Conference, Thessaloniki, Greece, June 24-27, with PA
- 11. qCCL 25, 2025 IEEE International Conference on Quantum Control, Computing and Learning, Hong Kong, Jun 25-28, without PA
- 12. CCC 2025: The 44th Chinese Control Conference, Chongqing, China, 28-31 July 2024, with PA

- 13. CoDIT25: 11th International Conference on Control, Decision and Information Technologies, Split, Croatia, 15-18 July, with PA
- 14. MMAR 2025: 29th International Conference on Methods and Models in Automation and Robotics 2024, Miedzyzdroje, Poland, 26-29 Aug. 2025, with PA
- 15. ICAT 25: 30th International Conference on Information, Communication and Automation Technologies, Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, 2-4 Sept., with PA
- 16. SysTol 25, 6th Conference on Control and Fault-Tolerant Systems, Ayia Napa Cyprus, Jun 6-8, with PA
- 17. ICSTCC 2025: 29th International Conference on System Theory, Control and Computing, Cluj-Napoca, Romania, Oct. 9-11, with PA
- 18. IMC-SSGP 25: 2025 IEEE International Conference on Smart Systems and Green Process, Hammamet, Tunisia, Oct. 30-Nov. 2, without PA
- 19. ICSC 25: IEEE 13th International Conference on Systems and Control, Marrakech, Morocco, 22-24 Oct., with PA
- 20. ICC 25, 2025 Eleventh Indian Control Conference, Bengaluru, India, Dec. 18-20, with PA
- 21. PCC 26, 22nd Polish Control Conference, Poznań, Poland, July 1-3, without PA
- 22. AdCONIP 26, International Symposium on Advanced Control of Industrial Processes, Auckland, New Zealand, 29 Nov 1 Dec, with PA

Live Streaming for CDC and CCTA

Xie introduced the item. Then a discussion followed.

Concerns were raised about engagement, Q&A time, and plenary talks length.

People can go back and view a missed lecture/workshop, but people may also choose to just watch the stream and not attend.

Raphaël Jungers inquired about the appropriateness of posing a question to the plenary speaker at the conclusion of their address. How noted that accommodating a question time would eliminate the scheduled break, and that no additional time could be allocated unless the speaker concluded their presentation promptly.

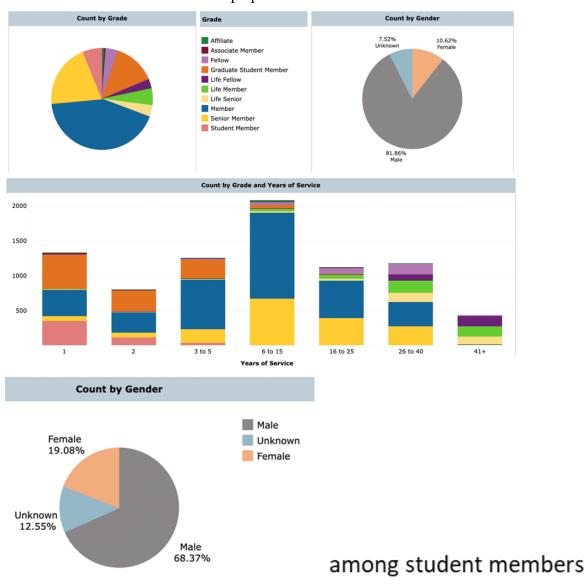
Fregene suggested, following a discussion with Beck, that speakers be encouraged to limit their presentations to 45-50 minutes to allow time for questions.

Goal: Encourage shorter talks to enable live discussion

IEEE CSS VP for Member Activities Necmiye Ozay

Ozay provided an overview of Membership numbers as of May 2025:

8,067 members (+3.8%)
Female membership up 1.2%
Grad Student + Student membership up 5.1%



Egerstedt noted a positive trend of increasing youth engagement and overall membership growth within IEEE. This indicates a successful strategy in attracting new, younger members.

Mesbahi raised an important point about establishing connections with industries that actively hire graduate students. These kinds of partnerships could really show off the practical career benefits of joining IEEE, which would definitely encourage more people to sign up. Ozay found the idea of industry engagement interesting. Vernekar is actively working on setting up online industry lectures in association with local IEEE chapters. This initiative provides valuable insights from industry professionals and fosters collaboration.

NextCom currently manages job community posts, but the focus is shifting towards specifically attracting and integrating industry members into the IEEE community. Fregene shared a successful model from his company where IEEE subsidizes a portion of membership rates, encouraging employee participation. This type of partnership at the IEEE level should be actively encouraged to boost attendance at meetings and foster deeper industry ties.

Pena asked if there was a way to know how many Brazilian people are CSS members. She mentioned the challenges faced by members in certain regions, specifically mentioning Brazilian members who often lack access to grants. She noted that the transition from student to professional membership can be particularly difficult without financial support and asked if there are any initiatives to address these challenges, as it would be highly beneficial for members in similar situations

Ozay will look into this.

IEEE CSS VP for Technical Activities Mario di Bernardo

CSS website and social media accounts/strategy

Di Bernardo discussed recent updates to the CSS webpage aimed at improving clarity and navigation, though he acknowledged that some difficulties in navigating the site still remain.

He showed a comparison chart of CSS social media presence vs RAS.

CSS social media presence:

Social network	No. followers	No. posts in 2024	Last post date
Χ	3,5K	2 (no posts in 2023)*	22 oct. 2024
LinkedIn	2,3K members	Few ⁺	1 month ago
Facebook	Not available	Not available	not available

(*) disconnected from dedicated accounts for CDC, ECC, ACC etc.

RAS:

Social network	No. followers	No. posts in 2024	Last post date
X	11K	On average 4-5 per month	3 days ago
LinkedIn	500	-	-
Facebook	23.4K	Approx 20-25	yesterday

He listed actions to take:

- website update - work with CC

- possibly outsourcing social media management

He spoke about his meeting with Conference Catalysts where they discussed how the platform for CSS Day 2026 should be run, revamping the CSS website and possible social media management. The costs for each would be:

- Marketing/Social media support \$23,400
- CSS Day 2026 \$12,000
- CSS Website redevelopment \$38,000

CSS Website redevelopment

Di Bernardo informed the group that the website was last updated in 2019.

Improved security and accessibility are crucial for organizational success. Fregene suggested leveraging RAS for best practices, particularly in social media strategy and digital outreach. Di Bernardo confirmed that RAS has a dedicated social media committee. The central committee provides tech support, but individual committees are responsible for content. Egerstedt emphasized expanding social media and strongly advocated for a costly but valuable website refresh to enhance user experience and engagement.

CSS Days 2022 and 2024

Di Bernardo noted that the videos of all previous editions are now available online without the need to register to access them, adding that the number of participants at last edition was 345 over the 5 days (online viewing) with the main limitations being a lack of publicity. He then encouraged everyone to go online and view the videos.

Isakson added that he did not think the ConFlux handling of the event and the need of registration was good.

Proposal for CSS Day 2026

Di Bernardo plans to start the following action items and put together a detailed proposal for the next ExCom meeting (any BoG member should reach out if interested):

Actions:

- Form a task force (VP Membership, VP Outreach, Chapter/TC Chairs).
 - Theme/committee names for approval in September (ExCom/BoG) and finalized by BoG in December.
- Propose themes (e.g., AI/Learning and Control).
- Consider October 26, 2026, as a possible event date.
- Explore Zoom or other Conflux alternatives for accessibility.
- Announce program March/April 2026 (6 months prior).

• Solicit ideas from TC and Chapter Chairs.

There is a tentative budget 20-25K.

Dong added that showing CSS activities is a great idea for member engagement.

Current TC structure

Di Bernardo informed the group that there are currently 22 TCs. He wants to engage more with TC chairs to map what areas are currently left out and which might be worth to be proactively stimulated by special initiatives, workshops etc.

He also wants to encourage all the TCs to establish a TC Outstanding Student paper award (TC-OSPAs) that is currently only awarded by 9 out of 22 existing TCs.

New TC proposal: Fully Actuated Systems Approach

Di Bernardo provided the list of topics for the TC but added that, following consultations with all TC Chairs and the ExCom as required by the CSS Bylaws, it was suggested the applied TC has a very close relation and overlapping topics with some of other existing TCs of the society. The ExCom decided to postpone creation of the new TC on Fully Actuated Systems, as the proposal is far too close to areas of interest of existing TCs. Recommend to the proposer to liaise with the Chair of the TC on Nonlinear Systems to consider forming a Working Group on FAS within that TC, start joint initiatives and then reconsider forming a new TC in a couple of years from now.

Proposal to move TAB usually held at ACC to CCTA from 2026

To engage TCs more actively at CCTA, it was decided to move TAB meeting to CCTA (instead of ACC).

IEEE CSS VP for Diversity, Outreach, and Development Activities Karl H. Johansson

Johannson gave an overview of Outreach activities.

CSS Outreach Fund 2024

Johansson discussed the usage of outreach fund for 2024 (initial budget of \$120K).

List of approved outreach grants (\$122,832)

- Joint Summer School on "Variable structure and sliding mode control" and "Indo-French seminar on Advances in robust nonlinear control for uncertain dynamic systems: theory and applications", India, \$18,209
- 2024 ACC Self-Driving Car Student Competition, Canada, \$20,000

- NextCom, Italy, \$17,870+\$3,953
- 2024 CDC Cup, Italy, \$1,800
- Series of Control System Workshops 2024–2025, Universiti Sains Malaysia, \$6,000
- Supporting Students and Early Career Researchers in Control Systems at the 5th IFAC CPHS 2024, Turkey, \$10,000
- Promoting IEEE Control Systems Society in Nigerian Universities through Automatic Control Workshops, Nigeria, \$20,000
- Purdue ICON Student Research Conference, USA, \$4,150
- Inclusive Diversity Lunch Event at IEEE CDC 2024, Italy, \$2,500
- The future of control engineering a female perspective, Lund University, Sweden, \$18,350 Others: Empower a Billion Lives \$100K (from CSS Fund at the IEEE Foundation) + travel expenses, Aranya Chakrabortty CSS Responsible, approved by BoG Dec 2024

CSS Outreach Fund 2025

The new approved budget is \$160K.

List of approved applications 2025 (\$154,893)

- Summer school on control of distributed parameter systems and applications, China, \$20,000
- Workshop on Future PhD in control, Germany, \$14,500
- When Robotics Meet Controls: Enhancing Education in Africa through the PARC, \$20,000
- Bridging the Gap: A Gateway to Control Systems Engineering for Lebanese High School Students, \$13,321
- Coffee and Control, Podcast, \$560
- 2025 ACC Self-Driving Car Student Competition, USA, \$20,000
- Strengthening the Control Community in Colombia, \$19,900
- Workshop Series on Instrumentation, Control, and Automation for Future Indonesian Scientists and Engineers, \$15,400
- Workshop on Optimal/Robust Control and State Estimation for Aerospace Applications, India, \$14,000
- CDC 2025 Soccer Cup, Brazil, \$2,500
- Diversity and Inclusion Day at CDC 2025, Brazil, \$11,912
- Control Talk Series: Bridging Academia and Industry, USA, \$2,800

He added that they already have some applications for 2026.

Currently evaluated application for 2026 (\$6,000)

• Workshop on Applications of Geometry, India, \$6,000 (applied for \$20,000)

He added that outreach activities are announced and reported through CSm and social media articles.

CSS Graduate Collaboration Fellowship

Johannson gave an overview of the Fellowship, noting that up to 10 fellowships (up to 10k USD) are awarded annually. A recipient can possibly get a renewal up to 3 times.

Mesbahi asked if they could choose from leading institutions of countries outside of their own - and if they need to have a faculty advisor. Johannson replied saying yes, and remarked that the faculty advisor will be responsible for overseeing their work. The students need to submit a report of their activities. Once submitted, they can get the second installment of the funds.

CSS Past President Magnus Egerstedt

Egerstedt addressed the topic of Board of Governors (BoG) engagement, noting that while there is considerable talent and passion among members, the board currently convenes only twice annually during the BoG meetings. He inquired whether there was interest in increasing involvement outside these formal meetings, emphasizing the numerous opportunities available for participation in various activities. He posed several questions to the group: Should the board pursue greater engagement? What specific areas require support? He encouraged any Board members with a strong desire to contribute to reach out to the Vice Presidents.

Dong expressed strong support for the idea, proposing the formation of a task force or committee, and offered his assistance to the fullest extent possible. Vernekar also endorsed the proposal, noting his own involvement in member activities during the previous meeting. He recommended that members contact the relevant Vice President as the most effective way to become involved.

Tegling affirmed the value of increased engagement and suggested that contributing to social media content creation could serve as an accessible avenue for participation.

Egerstedt concluded by stating that the Vice Presidents would compile a list of areas where assistance is needed and subsequently reach out to interested BoG members. He noted that logistical details would require further coordination and recommended consolidating all requests

into a single communication to be sent to the board for clarity and efficiency.

CSS President

Carolyn Beck

IEEE CSS Best CCTA Paper Award

Beck updated the group that the award template has been submitted to and approved by IEEE.

The nomination form will be set up on the website for nominations

Family Cares Grant Status

Beck had worked and continues to work on this. She drafted the first proposal and submitted it to IEEE for approval. They came back with revisions, so she is currently working on revising the

document and will resubmit it soon.

IEEE CSS Test of Time Paper Award

Beck informed the group that this is being worked on and it is to be submitted by August for

approval at the November TAB meeting.

Other Business

President Beck asked if any BoG members had any other business to discuss.

No further discussion items were brought forward.

The next BoG meeting will take place in association with CDC 2025. It is scheduled for December

9, 2025, in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

President Beck presented the following motion:

• **Motion:** *To adjourn the meeting.*

The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at **5:40PM MDT**.