

USNC-URSI Business Meeting Minutes

January 8, 2013

Millennium Harvest House Hotel, Century Room

Boulder, Colorado

1) Call to Order and Introductions (Steve Reising)

Steve Reising, the Chair of USNC-URSI, called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. He reminded the USNC-URSI committee (the “Committee”) that the voting membership of the Committee consists of 4 officers, 6 members-at-large, 10 commission chairs, 7 U.S. officers of URSI, and 6 society representatives. The Chair reviewed the USNC-URSI Leadership (officers and National Academy representatives), commission chairs, vice chairs, society representatives, government liaisons and honorary members. The international URSI officers from the U.S. were also reviewed.

The Members of USNC that were present at the Business Meeting were:

USNC Officers

Steven Reising (Chair)

Yahya Rahmat-Samii (Immediate Past Chair)

Gary Brown (Accounts Manager)

David R. Jackson (Secretary)

National Academies Representative (non-voting)

Ana Ferreras

Commission Chairs

Chris Holloway (Commission A Chair)

Sembiam Rengarajan (Commission B Chair)

Amir Zaghoul (Commission C Chair)

Jennifer Bernhard (Commission D Chair)

Everett Farr (Commission E Chair)

V. Chandrasekar (Commission F Chair)

Frank Lind (Commission G Chair)

Victor Pasko (Commission H Chair)

Rich Bradley (Commission J Chair)

Erdem Topsakal (Commission K Chair)

Society Representatives

David Hysell (AGU representative)

Randy Haupt (IEEE AP-S representative),

David Kunkee (IEEE GRSS representative)

Ross Stone (URSI Assistant Secretary General – Publications),

George Uslenghi (international URSI Vice-President),

Members at Large

Danilo Erricolo (also Student Travel Program and Student Paper Competition Chair)

Dev Palmer

Zoya Popovic

Michael Sulzer

U.S. Officers of URSI (non-voting)

William A. Davis (Chair, URSI Commission A)

Roger Lang (Chair, URSI Commission F)

John Matthews (Chair, URSI Commission G)

Ross Stone (Assistant Secretary General - Publications)

George Uslenghi (Vice President of URSI)

Government Liaisons (non-voting)

Andrew Clegg (National Science Foundation)

Eric Mokole (Naval Research Laboratory) (represented by Larry Cohen)

Also in attendance:

Sigrid Close (Vice Chair, Commission G)

Greg Huff (Vice Chair, Commission C)

Michael Newkirk (Vice Chair, Commission F)

2) Approval of Minutes (Steve Reising)

The minutes of the 2012 meeting were approved.

3) Approval of the Agenda (Steve Reising)

The agenda for the meeting was approved.

4) Report by the Chair (Steve Reising)

- The role and purpose of USNC-URSI were reviewed, along with the history and scope of international URSI.
- It was noted that there were 100 students who were supported by a travel grant to attend the 2014 NRSM in Boulder.
- It was noted that the deadline for submitting the copyright forms on the website (for IEEE Xplore archiving) will be Jan. 18.
- George Uslenghi made the suggestion that abstracts also go on National Academy servers as well as IEEE Xplore, and that we should include in the MOU with the IEEE a statement that allows URSI to include abstracts on its own servers.

- The Chair then had David Jackson give an update about the status of archiving abstracts on IEEE Xplore. It was noted that beginning with the 2013 NRSM, authors of presented abstracts at the NRSM would have the option of having their abstracts archived on Xplore. At least one author for each abstract must register. The format of the abstracts will remain as in the past (single page, single column). At the Chicago 2012 AP-S/URSI meeting, Ross Stone made a motion to the AP-S AdCom to have URSI abstracts from the summer meetings (Radio Science Meetings) archived on Xplore as well. The format would again remain as it has been (single page, single column). The motion was approved, and the MOU between USNC-URSI and AP-S was modified to reflect this, and the modified MOU was accepted by AP-S (President Steve Best).
- The issue of how to divide credit for papers in joint sessions was discussed.
- The Chair noted that he has started a LinkIn group for USNC-URSI.

5) Report by Immediate Past Chair (Yahya Rahmat-Samii)

Yahya Rahmat-Samii said that he hoped to see new initiates to advance USNC-URSI.

6) Report from International URSI (George Uslenghi)

- George Uslenghi (Vice President of International URSI) noted that international URSI urges all commissions to hold international symposia every three years. So far, the following Commissions hold international meetings:
 - Commission A (They plan to hold their first international symposium in Sept. 2013 in Turin.)
 - Commission B (They regularly hold the Electromagnetic Theory Symposium.)
 - Commission E (Their first international symposium was held in Sept. 2012 in Cape Town, South Africa.)
- George Uslenghi reported on the URSI General Assembly and Scientific Symposium (GASS). The next GASS will be held in 2014 in Beijing, China. Participation is encouraged.
- Other international URSI meetings in the near future include the Atlantic Meeting in the Canary Islands in 2015 that will be attended by all 10 URSI Commissions, and the Pacific Meeting in 2016 which will be organized.
- The URSI Secretariat will soon send out a call for URSI awards. The U.S. has done well in the past, and we should make sure that we have good candidates for this next selection. We need to establish two committees soon: (1) A senior awards committee

to select nominees for the senior awards, and (2) a committee to select a nominee for the Koga Gold Medal.

- Regarding elections, it is noted that URSI Presidents have typically been people who have served as the Chair of a National Committee. It is also noted that we have to renominate George Uslenghi for URSI Vice President (the nominations will need to be made in early 2014).

7) Report by the Accounts Manager (Gary Brown)

- Gary Brown reviewed both the private account and the National Academies account. The private account is unrestricted, and funds come from meetings proceeds and the ARO. The National Academies account includes grants from proposals submitted to NSF, and covers international URSI dues and operating costs.
- In 2012, Committee revenues (as of 11/30/2012) were \$111,191 and expenses were \$34,582. The residual fund balance in the private account on 11/30/2012 was \$236,552. Accounting for expected expenses in December, including to 2013 student travel grant awards that will be paid, the expected residual balance at the end of the year is projected to be \$182,595.
- The issue of future support from ARO was raised. Dev Palmer said that support through 2016 would be at a level of \$7,000 per year.

8) Report from the National Academies (Ana Ferreras)

- Ana Ferreras reviewed the mission of BISO (Board on Scientific Organizations) and the activities of the various USNCs (of which USNC-URSI is one).
- The IVO (International Visitors Office) was noted. There is a website that allows visitors to check on visas and speed up the visa process.
- A reception for women involved with URSI (led by Zoya Popovic) will be held during this meeting, at 7:00 p.m. on Thursday. It was noted that six established female faculty members agreed to serve as “mentors” for younger female USNC-URSI members.

9) Biographical information and Conflict of Interest Form (Ana Ferreras)

- Ana reminded USNC-URSI members to fill out and return the conflict of interest form.

10) Comments by Members-at-Large, Society Representatives, and Government Liaisons

- Eric Mokole raised the issue about travel restrictions. Jennifer Bernhard asked if USNC-URSI can draft a position paper to indicate how important conference travel is. This could be sent to the Secretaries of the various agencies (Army, Navy, Air force, President’s office, OSTP). Jennifer Bernhard will send us some sentences that we can use.
- David Hysell asked about the relation between USNC-URSI and the AGU publications.

11) Items for Commission Business Meetings (Steve Reising)

- Each commission needs to report on Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary, as well as new members.
- We need proposals for special sessions for 2014 National Radio Science Meeting.
- We need to know which commissions will participate in the 2014 IEEE AP-S / USNC-URSI Radio Science Meeting.
- Do Commissions prefer that the USNC-URSI website be hosted by the National Academies, or do they prefer to host their own website?
- Do we have a volunteer to serve as a “Website Liaison”?
- Comments for the USNC-URSI?
- Attendance information is requested for the Commission business meeting.

12) Preliminary Conference Results for the 2013 NRSM (Steve Reising and Danilo Erricolo)

Registrants	2013	2012	2011	2010
Early	161	158	159	173
Late	31	40	30	10
Student retiree early	139	134	146	127
Student retiree late	13	18	12	3
Total	344	350	347	313

Conference Information	2013	2012	2011	2010
Number of papers	364	369	358	347
Number of sessions	47	47	49	45
Numbers of student grants	100	104	113	97

13) Report on the 2012 IEEE AP-S/USNC-URSI Meeting in Chicago, IL (Erricolo)

Danilo Erricolo gave an overview of the statistics from the 2012 AP-S/URSI meeting in Chicago, IL, and also discussed the applications for student travel support for the 2013 NRSM.

14) Future IEEE AP-S/USNC-URSI Meetings (William Davis)

William (Bill) Davis reviewed upcoming IEEE AP-S / USNC-URSI meetings. Future meetings include the AP-S/URSI meetings in 2014 in Memphis and 2016 in Puerto Rico, and the 2015 North American Radio Science Meeting in Vancouver.

Bill Davis asked to be replaced on the Joint Meetings Committee. Amir Zaghoul has also asked to be replaced.

15) Plenary Session for the 2014 NRSM (Steve Reising)

Steve Reising reviewed the plenary topics for the past years, from 2006-2013. The Commissions will be asked for suggestions for plenary topics for the 2014 meeting (two Commissions are paired together to organize the plenary session).

16) Old Business (Steve Reising)

None

17) New Business (Steve Reising)

Steve Reising noted that there will be a North American Radio Science Meetings in 2015, in Vancouver, Canada.

18) Review of Action Items for the Commission Chairs (Steve Reising)

Steve Reising reviewed the action items for the Commission Chairs (please see the list in item 11 above).

19) Members who Passed Away in 2012

Steve Reising noted those USNC-URSI members that we lost in 2012: Dr. Hans J. Liebe, Prof. Richard K. Moore, and Prof. James A. Weinman.

20) Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 p.m.