

IEEE Society on the Social Implications of Technology

Board of Governors Meeting

24 March, 2012

Rutgers University

369 Civic Square Building

New Brunswick, NJ

10:00 am – 3:00pm

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|--|-----------|
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| 10. Committee Reports | |
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| Membership | Adamson |
| Student Membership | Gawkowska |
| Distinguished Lecturers | Herkert |
| Virtual Community | Andrews |
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MINUTES

IEEE Society on the Social Implications of Technology
Board of Governors Meeting
24 March, 2012
Rutgers University
369 Civic Square Building
New Brunswick, NJ

1. Welcome and Introductions

The meeting was opened at 10:17 AM by President Jerry Engel. The members present and on the phone introduced themselves. A quorum of voting members was present in person or by telephone/Skype/etc. Attendees are listed at the end of the minutes.

2. Adoption of the Agenda (Engel)

Related Attachment:
SSITBOG_AGENDA Mar 24 2012.docx

The agenda mailed to the to the BoG was adopted as sent. The schedule was adjusted in real time to ensure that items requiring a vote would be handled early, and to accommodate schedules of individual participants. The sequence of items below reflects the changes; as a result, the item numbers below do not necessarily match the item numbers on the original agenda.

3. Approval of Minutes of the Previous Meeting (Terman)

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as distributed.

4. President's Message (Engel)

- Thanked Clint Andrews for arranging site for this meeting.
- Introduced Jeff Voas, IEEE Division 6 Director, who noted that Div. 6 is an interesting division, with 7 member, small societies, with strong passion for what they do. He felt there were new opportunities for growth within the Division
- Introduced Jayne Cerone, from the TAB staff. She attended the meeting as part of her interest in integrating what SSIT does with TAB and IEEE activities.
- Introduced Peter Weisner, retired IEEE staff member, who subsequently did a presentation on renewable energy (see Item #10 below)

Based on the February TAB meeting, Pres. Engel remains optimistic. TAB is focusing on a number of new projects:

- a. the Proceedings of the IEEE 100th anniversary issue paper from SST has been submitted.
- b. IEEE Computer Society joint project w. IFIPS on professionalism on an international scale - what are the definitions and requirements to insure that a position description means the same thing wherever it is used around the world, e.g., "software engineer". SSIT should look a this carefully to see what involvement/impact SSIT could have. He felt there is much needed, and quick action was desirable.
- c. Humanitarian activity - IFIPS has effort involving humanitarian activity; the Seattle Section/Region 6 Global Humanitarian Conference (GHTC) could have interaction for mutual advantage.

Other topics covered:

d. SSIT fund raising - SSIT received an officially anonymous unsolicited contribution for SSIT operating expenses which, in fact, came from Jim Isaac, who figured out how to make such a donation. SSIT has 330 Life Members, who don't pay dues, who could be willing to donate to help cover SSIT operating expenses. It does get a bit complicated: SSIT cannot solicit donations for operating expenses, but the BoD could allow such solicitations as donations to IEEE for a designated purpose. However, it cannot be done through the online renewal cycle. Jeff Voas will socialize with the Board, but feels it could not get done this calendar year. The Foundation may not be happy with this, since it might be perceived as competing their fund raising efforts. SSIT will need to educate members how to make such donations. An item on Jim's process for unsolicited donations has been sent to the Newsletter and will subsequently be posted on website.

e. New Joint Chapter - Jerry's home section in Connecticut has formed a joint chapter of Computer Society, SMS, and SSIT; Jerry said he had no credit for this happening.

f. Newsletter - Acknowledged the very effective job that Deepak Mathur has been doing with the Newsletter, and reminded attendees that Deepak is looking for stories for the Spring (and subsequent) issues

g. IEEE International Symposium on Ethics in Science, Technology, and Engineering - this has come up several times previously. Elya Joffe is the proposer, and suggests SSIT be the sole sponsor. He is willing to lead if SSIT supplies the volunteers. Probably for 2014, venue not set yet. IEEE-USA has shown interest to be involved. Initially for a single meeting, but possibly yearly if successful. Could be back to back or overlapping with ISTAS. Possible conflict with other ethics conferences was discussed. Will be discussed later in the meeting.

5. Past President's Report (Perusich - by Engel)

Inputs requested for candidates for the BoG election. Also, looking for suggestions for candidates for the SSIT officer elections for President and Vice-president in the Fall Meeting.

6. Division VI Director's Report - remarks covered in Item #4 above.

7. Treasurers Report (Foster)

Related Attachments:

3 Month Summary for 2011

14 Month Summary for 2010

2010 had a small surplus due to bigger than anticipated investment return. 2011 saw a big loss - ~\$50K, due to loss in investment return and less than projected conference revenue. The biggest item in the budget is the \$91K expense from IEEE, over which we have no control. The few variables that the BoG can control are: a) the SSIT member dues, b) non-IEEE member periodical price, and c) IEEE member but non-SSIT member periodical price, and d) periodical structure (number of issues, pages). Electronic publication could wipe out much of the deficit - estimate ~\$28K net savings. Increasing dues could not be expected cover the deficit alone. Historically, SSIT conference income is relatively minor. Surplus from the Singapore conference this year (see Section 9 Conferences) is estimated at ~ \$3K to \$4K.

Motion: Increase SSIT member dues for 2013 by \$2 (to \$32).

--> Motion passed

Motion: Accept both the IEEE suggested T&S price for both non-IEEE members and IEEE Member/non-SSIT members for 2013.

--> Motion Passed

Agreed to continue with 4 issues for T&S in 2013

Motion: Increase the number of pages for T&S in 2013 by 32 pages (to 296 pages, including covers)

--> Motion Passed

(Expected financial impact ~\$6K)

Motion: SSIT also get the Table of Contents email package from IEEE that provides links to articles in Xplore for IEEE, with SSIT including any additional information in that message.

--> Motion Passed

(Qmax has already been approved; cost of motion ~ \$3K)

Possible additional options can be discussed by BoG later when more information is available, but the SSIT default is no add-ons.

The 2013 budget process will get started April 1st.

8. Publications Report (Miller)

Related Attachments:

Editors Reportv2.docx

2013 TS electronic pub info rev.docx

The attachments cover the status for T&S, and information on T&S electronic publication. After 2013 SSIT will move to electronic digital publication, one of the first S/Cs to do so. Cost for hard copy will be \$xx/year, not including mailing.

Other business:

New Editor In Chief - Katina Michael; lots of submissions, a very healthy trend. High percentage coming from outside North America. Wants 32 additional pages for 2013 (Motion passed in Section 7). Three areas being worked on with the Pubs Board: International articles/authors, Interviews (with SSIT members and others of interest), Interactivity (having authors use social media to interact with readers). Katina is interested in having more associate editors, and having them more active in the publication. Publications currently cover T&S and the Newsletter; should it expand to include Social Media? Jim Isaak proposed an Associate Editor for Social Media/interactivity - raise questions that are brought up in the Publications. SSIT could have a much more social media presence - and SSIT topics fit social media. Laura Jacob volunteered to be involved. Social Media absence is possibly why we have lost so many student members.

Pres. Engel thought that some very good comments on SSIT volunteer support had been discussed, and asked for the comments to be in the "Presidents Column" column in T&S.

A group in Africa is having connectivity problem. They would like to be able to download. Hearing no objection, Pres. Engel ruled we will go ahead with allowing them to download.

Apparently, the \$15 membership is dead, as is 1 free society proposal.

Jeff Voas: Public Visibility projects - if we have really hot topics, the IEEE Public Visibility group could help getting those topics out. Jim Isaak noted that Pub Vis group does not know who we are, and there is an opportunity there.

9. Conferences (Hoffnagle)

Related Attachments:

Adamson T&SA Report Mar12.doc

Adamson 120225_ IEEE_ SSIT T&SA Budget.xlsx

Adamson TSA 2012 MOU.pdf

SSIT Technology and Society in Asia (T&SA/ISTAS) Meeting (Adamson) - details in the attachments Venue is Singapore. Three financial sponsors (Victoria, Singapore, Japan). Moving along well, budget looks good, expecting 150. Papers on thumb drive, and submitted to IEEE. Should be part of the ISTAS series in Xplore - Jayne Cerone will check to confirm. Will have some celebration about SSIT 40th anniversary. Need MOU for ISTAS which includes publications; Jayne Cerone will forward a sample MOU. No plan for an SSIT BoG meeting at ISTAS/TS&A. .

SSIT conference venues for 2013 and beyond: 2012 normally would have been in ME/Africa. Need direction on ISTAS - 2013, beyond. ISTAS 2013 - where? - North or South America, Europe, ME, Africa - any preference?

Jim Isaak - possibly co-locate with 2013 GHTC (Reg. 6/Seattle) for 1 year; seems like good idea to explore. Some discussion on the overlap of the ethics, philosophy, humanitarian. communities. Discussion of possible Technical Cosponsorship, and the concerns within IEEE about such cosponsorships.

Pres Engel suggested looking into the GHTC/Seattle and the proposed International Symposium on Ethics and Science.

SSIT needs to develop a list of potential relationships. Conferences to consider possible relationships with:
GHTC

International Association of Computers and Philosophy

International Symposium on Ethics and Science

Institute for Ethics and Emerging Technology (IEET - UK)

fTEP (?)

Conference on Advanced Robotics & Social Impact

APPTE - practical oriented conference, held in Cincinnati until this year; may not be a good choice for co-location.

Need to develop a list of conferences and groups that we should consider having relationships with. However, cannot look at all of them. Question: who is our audience? Who should we relate with?

Gene Hoffnagle wants advice from BoG for 2013. Also, what structure - co-locate, overlap, merge - what model? Who has been to which conference? We don't know enough about them.

Jayne Cerone: has SSIT surveyed members recently to see what they want? Need to determine what our members want.

Subsequent discussion continued after lunch:

Look into cooperation with GHTC in 2013 - co-locate with them

Elya Joffe has proposed an international ethics conference (International Symposium on Ethics & Science). Interest in sponsoring this meeting. Herkert and Miller volunteered as co-chair. It would be a stand-alone meeting, in North American; IEEE-USA may be interested in joint funding. Consider having it as ISTAS for that year.

Clint Andrews: our relationship to ISSST (International Symposium on Sustainable Systems and Technology): SSIT said no for 2012. ISSST came out of Computer Society, but is better intellectual fit with SSIT. Suggest we look at "being friends" with it in the future. Questions were raised on ease of working with their culture. No action at this time; Clint Andrews will keep BoG informed.

Gene Hoffnagle proposed an AdHoc committee an "Ambassador Program" - send at least one person to each of various conferences of importance to SSIT, to represent SSIT, give feedback for possible relationship. If you go to such a conference, contact Gene Hoffnagle if interested. Need to look at all the implications. Gene to have proposal for July BoG meeting.

10. Report on possible SSIT Involvement with IEEE TV (Peter Weisner).

When he retired last year from IEEE, Peter was working on a fairly large IEEE video project. A documentary on wind energy aired on public TV, another on solar energy was delayed because the executive producer left, but the project has now been revived. A third program on Smart Grid is planned. Not asking for funding, but is asking how SSIT can be involved.

Other ideas of interest is how SSIT might interact with IEEE TV to produce programs of interest to IEEE members, cooperating with IEEE Spectrum. Video is being used increasingly as an adjunct to print media SSIT might consider doing ancillary video with the SSIT magazine. Talk with IEEE TV to develop a program. IEEE can get funding. SSIT have champion.

Another possibility would be to put the previously developed video "Doing the Right Thing" in the Public Domain. Peter will send email with links to Pres. Engel for forwarding to the BoG. A suggestion was made to consider producing short 5 minute UTube videos on ethics/SSIT-related topics. They should be much shorter than lectures. Another possibility is to record a Skype conversation/presentation. The idea is to have a group of

people who could step in quickly and get a video up on UTube. How to get acceptable video and audio quality was discussed.

11. Awards (Foster)

SSIT evaluated one IEEE Fellow Nomination, which was successful.

Barus Awards (Unger)

The previously tabled motion to was taken off the table The BoG went into Executive Session.
Result of the Executive Session:

**Motion: That Marc Edwards be named recipient of the 2012 Barus Award, with a stipend to be \$5K.
--> Motion passed**

Steve Unger will submit a citation will be circulated to the BoG, with the BoG members to have 10 days to comment.

Steve Unger will generate an article on the Barus Award for T&S, covering the 2012 recipient and including a short overview of the history, and giving information on the nomination process, with the goal of stimulating nominations. The presentation venue TBD.

Brian M. O'Connell Award SSIT Distinguished Service Award (Andrews)

**Motion: The BoG approved Bob Whelchel as the 2012 recipient of the SSIT Brian M. O'Connell Distinguished Service Award
--> Motion passed**

An appropriate citation will be developed by the selection committee.

Distinguished Ethical Practices Award (Andrews)

There is an IEEE award for Distinguished Ethical Practices. The IEEE BoD assigned it to the Ethics and Member Conduct Committee, and it has never been given. It is for evidence of exemplary ethical behavior or practices, or persuasive advocacy of such practices. It is given only to IEEE members or organizations employing IEEE members. Deadline is July 1. Clint Andrews is soliciting nominations. He suggests that this could include ethics education. A description can be found at ieee.org/ethics.

12. Distinguished Lecturers (Herkert)

Related Attachments:

SSIT Distinguished Lecturer Report

Numerous attachments with information about James Giordano

No official DLs since the last meeting, though most of the DLs are active on the lecture circuit. Ron Arkin has several lined up in the coming months.

There are two funding requests for international travel. There is no current budget for DL travel, since it is quite variable from year to year.

**Motion: \$1K to Ken Foster for air and US transportation expenses to give a DL in Ecuador
--> Motion passed**

**Motion: Up to \$1054K to cover airfare to Portugal for Janet Rochester for a talk at a Women in Engineering Conference. She is working on some funding from WIE, which might reduce the maximum amount.
--> Motion passed**

A letter from was received from James Giordano, asking to be a SSIT DL (see attachments). He is unknown to

the BoG members at the meeting. After discussion, it was decided to put this on hold pending further information. Joe Herkert will get back to him.

The DL website has been updated, thanks to Terri Bookman.

13. Membership (Adamson)

NOTE: the SSIT student membership representative is not longer available for that position. Pres. Engel is looking for suggestions to fill the position.

Related Attachments:

Adamson Report on Membership Committee Activities Mar 12 v0.1.ppt

Adamson Monthly SSIT Membership since Jan 09.xls

Our membership has been slowly declining over the last three years. We are not in a good place.

The 100th Anniversary issue of the IEEE Proceedings SSIT article is an example of opportunities to interest people in joining SSIT.

Discussion with the President-elect of Computer Society, on possible collaboration with them. Suggestion for a special issue of Computer magazine in 2013 or 2014

Talked with Doug Schular, who is in charge of disbanding CPSR (Computer Professionals for Social Responsibility); Greg will get back to us if there is opportunity for collaboration

At Region 10 meeting in Calcutta - several sections in India are very interested in forming one or more SSIT branches.

Suggest: continue working on visibility opportunities - through

- email to members who have not renewed by February

- IEEE "Try Us" communication for SSIT topics

- Send a welcome letter/package to new members. Jeff Voas offered the Reliability Society welcoming package as a template to use; Greg welcomed the offer.

In each of the above, we only need to provide the appropriate text, and IEEE will do the rest.

Emily Anesta: the 2010 membership drive did not seem to have a lasting effect.

Greg will determine how much membership turnover SSIT has each year.

Jim Isaak: We have multiple audiences. We need feedback through a survey - both active members and those that did not renew (what did you want from us? Why did you leave?). There are ~550 people active on our LinkedIn page; probably very few are members, but are perspective members. IEEE staff has group that would work with SSIT on surveys. Clint and Greg will sit with the IEEE survey group to formulate questions, get information on cost for running a survey.

14. Keith Miller: A motion is needed: SSIT is dropping the print copies of T&S as an automatic membership benefit. How many copies do we want to print for those who want print copies? 10 copies/issue will cost \$260/issue => \$1040/year + postage. 100 copies of an issue would cost ~\$1600. A price needs to be set, without knowing how many people will sign up for this option.

Motion: set the print option at \$120 per year for the print copy of T&S

--> Motion passed

15. Virtual Community (Tom Harris)

No report

16. Chapters/GOLD (Emily Anesta)

Nothing to report on GOLD; will be stepping down

Chapters:

Related Attachment:

Chapters201203.pdf:

SSIT now has 15 Chapters and growing. New Chapters: Connecticut (joint with CS/SMC), Sweden; working on an India Chapter. The Australia Chapter was the most active in 2011. Page 2 of the attachment lists a sampling of Chapter activities. Page 3 lists the 22 IEEE Sections around the world with enough members to start an SSIT chapter. The best opportunities seem to be Washington, Santa Clara Valley, and New York, with over 30 SSIT members each.

Lew Terman will arrange for the SSCS Chapters Chair to get in contact with Emily on ideas for starting chapters.

Jim Isaak: opportunities: start chapters with GOLD, WIE (or both), Life Member affiliate groups or chapters. Also, use Skype interactive talks/activity to help chapter activities.

17. WIE (Laura Jacob)

WIE is now organized under MGA, which seems to be working out; previously was a IEEE Board Level committee.

18. The next meeting will be at the University of Connecticut, Stamford, in late July - date TBD

FYI: Recent email from Pres. Engel:

The second SSIT BOG meeting of the year is scheduled for July 28, at the UCONN campus in Stamford Connecticut, from 10 am to 3pm. Times are US Eastern Daylight time.

For those unable to attend, the following are the conference call connection for participants in the US. I will send numbers for those of you outside the US shortly. If anyone is missed, please let me know, and I will try to find the information for you.

US toll free number 1-866-203-0920
 US Too number 1-206-445-0056

The conference code to use for the call is 4078564681

19. The meeting was adjourned at 3:32 PM

ATTENDEES

Engel	Jerry	SSIT President
Kjell	Bradley	SSIT BoG, VP
Terman	Lew	SSIT BoG, Secretary
Adamson	Greg	SSIT BoG
Anesta	Emily	SSIT BoG
Arkin	Ron	SSIT BoG
Herkert	Joe	SSIT BoG
Isaak	Jim	SSIT BoG
Jacob	Laura	SSIT BoG
Unger	Steve	SSIT BoG
Andrews	Clint	SSIT Div. 6 Representative

Miller	Keith	SSIT Publications Chair
Foster	Ken	SSIT Awards Chair
Hoffnagle	Gene	SSIT Meetings Chair
Michael	Katina	SSIT T&S Editor
Bookman	Terri	SSIT T&S Managing Editor
Voas	Jeff	Div. 6 Director
Cerone	Jayne	IEEE Staff
Weisner	Peter	Retired IEEE Staff
Terman	Bobbie	Guest

Attachments:

#2 - Agenda:

#7 - Treasurer's Report

#8 Publications Reports

Editor-in-Chief report:

#9 Conferences

#12 Distinguished Lectures

Information on James Giordano:

#13 Membership

#16 Chapters