MEMORANDUM

To: AESS Board of Governors

From: Edward K. Reedy
            Vice President for Publications

**Subject: Vice President for Publications Report for Fall 2002 Meeting
            (Carnahan Conference, Atlantic City, New Jersey)**

Date: October 22, 2002

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1. General

The publications area seems to be running smoothly primarily as a result of the excellent management and leadership provided by the Editors-in-Chief and Administrative Editor. As always, there are several issues that are currently being addressed:

1) Publication costs of *Systems Magazine*

   Associate VP for Publications, Joel Walker, is leading an effort to compare the costs and efficiency of our current process for publishing *Systems* with a proposal submitted by IEEE headquarters publication group. He will report on the results of this analysis and comparison separately.

2) Multiple Submissions/Plagiarism

   Transaction Editor-in-Chief, Dale Blair, has been revising our procedures for submitting materials for publications to the *Transaction* to address the problem of multiple submissions and possible plagiarism.

3) *Systems* Magazine Upgrade

   Ron Schroer, Dave Dobson, and Joel Walker continue to work toward the improvement in the overall quality of the *Systems* Magazine. Hopefully, their efforts are producing positive results, which are apparent. Please continue to provide feedback to Ron and Dave on ways to improve the Magazine.

2. Administrative Editor Report

Dave Dobson continues to make progress in reducing the delay time to publication for articles submitted for publication in the *Transactions*. We have now achieved a 6-month lead-time, well below the IEEE goal of 9 months.

Dave and Ron continue to modify the format and style of *Systems* to improve appearance and presentation. Conference reports and pre-conference information remain weak with little or no information provided, especially in a timely manner.

Dave is attempting to update the summary of AESS Awards and gain increased exposure and publicity of these awards. Gaps remain in the database, however, and we need help in completing this summary.

Chapter updates and changes are also an area when help is required.

See Attachment 1 for Dave Dobson's complete report. (Link: AESS VP-PUBS ReportOCt 02 - Att 1 - Dobson.pdf)

3. *Transactions*

Dr. Dale Blair, Editor-in-Chief of the *Transactions*, has made several new Associate Editor appointments in specific areas of technical interest. His most recent appointments are named in his report, which is included as Attachment 2 to this report. (Link: IEEE Transactions Status Oct 02.doc). The M. Barry Carlton Award winners for 2000 and 2001 are also identified in Dale's report.

Multiple submissions problems are being addressed through a revision of the "Information for Authors" guidance.

4. *Systems* **Magazine**

Format, style, and content continue to be the focus of efforts to improve the *Systems* Magazine as we respond to the IEEE Publications Review Committee's recommendations from last year. Editor-in-Chief Ron Schroer reports that he believes progress is being made in all areas. Emphasis is currently focused on developing a standardized Table of Contents and information flow. The editors are emphasizing the highest quality in graphics submitted and Dave Dobson is working on printing technologies to enhance figures.

Timely submissions of news inputs from technical and/or conference representatives remain a problem; however, Marina Ruggieri continues to provide the type of support in her Space Systems area that the magazine needs.

Attachments

September 20, 2002

To: Ed Reedy, VP. Publications, IEEE-AESS

From: Dave Dobson, Administrative Editor

Copies to: Joel Walker, Dale Blair, Ron Schroer, Scott Goldstein

Subject: Inputs for October 2002 BoG meeting

A. Giveaways

Since January 1, 2001:

    8064 *Jubilee/CD-ROM* packages were shipped to 44 conferences -- none left.

    531 *Jubilee* issues were shipped to 4 conferences -- none left.

    Thousands of current-month *Systems* were shipped to 48 conferences.

Thanks to Walt Dennon for his work in contacting and making arrangements for AESS to be able to get material to, and distributed at, these conferences. It is membership development at the grass roots. Walt is already working on the 2003 conferences for *Systems* distribution. The machinery works smoothly -- provided there is enough lead time to fill requests.

B. *Transactions*

October 2003 is set and out to the authors; annual indexing is under way. We currently lag our target date for any issue by 60 days; this is a gain of 45 since the first of the year. We are continuing our efforts to eliminate the lag. We remain in the upper half of our sister publications in timeliness.

Inputs are running smoothly at a rate of 1500 pages/year; the backlog on hand as this is written, with the 'oldest' having been received on June 6, will *all* be in January 2003 -- that is a six month lead time, well below the IEEE desire of 9 months. (Our 6 months is from the date that authors have provided everything needed for publication -- author procrastinations are unprogrammable)

C. *Systems*

Actual bills for the May 2002 issue were supplied to Joel for his use in comparison with the Hq proposal; other items included a capsule history of *Systems* and predecessors, and related functions .

Society news has been consolidated; in January the editorials will move; *In this issue -- technically,* 'returns' to page 2. Conference reports were received from St Petersburg and German Radar; other than what our editors have written *there have not been any from any conference since the 2001 radar conferences* in Atlanta and Beijing. Somebody should work on this, as well as the dearth of pre-conference information. The Colorado conference appeared as the November issue was closing; a short note could be, and was, inserted.

Awards are featured in November. Gaps are fillable, by those with *reliable* information. This is essential as a record for future historians. Question. Should the Warren White Award receive the same treatment as the Pioneer award -- i.e. should we feature this as we do the Pioneer? This needs an answer; should there be an accompanying *Transactions* story? And so on - - - - -

Chapters listing. Who is supposed to provide current information? And changes? Only one change - an address correction -- has been made in over one year, but the chapter chairs change each year. If not updated regularly let's use the space for other, timelier, items.

D. Other

Occasionally I am in touch with past AESS Officers and have become aware that Past Presidents are rarely invited to BoG meetings. Would it be nice, polite, and worthwhile?

Attachment 1

Status of the IEEE Transactions on Aerospace and Electronic Systems

By

Dale Blair, Editor-In-Chief
October 7, 2002

Editors

♦ Appointed Dr. Myron Kayton, Editor for Avionics Systems
♦ Appointed Robert C. Michelson, Georgia Tech, as Editor for Robotic Systems
♦ Dr. Marcelo Godoy Simoes, Colorado School of Mines, as Associate Editor for Energy Systems
♦ Dr. Marcelo Godoy Simoes, Colorado School of Mines, as Editor for Intelligent Systems
♦ Appointed Lance Kaplan, Clark Atlanta University, as Associated Editor-In-Chief. Lance will remain as Editor for Radar Systems.
♦ Appointed Shawn S. Toumodge, Raytheon, as Associate Editor for Radar Systems

M. Barry Carlton Award

♦ **2000 M. Barry Carlton Award:** Thiagalingam Kirubarajan, Yaakov Bar-Shalom, Krishna R. Pattipati, and Ivan Kadar, "Ground Target Tracking and Variable Structure IMM Estimator," IEEE Transactions on Aerospace and Electronic Systems, January 2000, pp. 26-46.

♦ **2001 M. Barry Carlton Award:** P. Lombardo, M. V. Greco, F. Gini, A. Farina, and J. B. Billingsley, "Impact of Clutter Spectra on Radar Performance Prediction" IEEE Transactions on Aerospace and Electronic Systems, July 2001, pp. 1022-1038.

Editorial Procedures

♦ Revised the "Information for Authors" to address plagiarism that has become a serious issue. I have attached the new and old versions of the "Information for Authors."
  ♦ Many authors are simultaneously submitting manuscripts to multiple journals.
  ♦ Manuscripts with only minor changes are being submitted for publication as separate and original work.
  ♦ Both of these actions waste the time of the editors and referees and reduce the quality of the journals.