

From: Prof H Griffiths [mailto:h.griffiths@ee.ucl.ac.uk]
Sent: Friday, October 14, 2005 3:12 AM
To: Weyrauch, John
Subject: AES BoG report

Dear John,

Herewith my report for the BoG meeting. Please could you post it on the website - though I will bring hard copies to the meeting.

I have restructured and reinvigorated the UKRI chapter. I made a set of proposals to Paul Gartz and I spoke with him subsequently. Background and proposals (updated following conversation with Paul) are as follows

1. Virtually everything that UKRI AESS has done in past years has been in collaboration with the IEE. Most people who are active in the field are members of both.

2. Most UKRI AESS activity has been in the area of radar, so there is opportunity to develop activities in other areas of the scope of AESS.

3. In the past two or three years the IEE has changed its way of doing business, moving towards more 'upmarket' events of higher cost. They make greater use of IEE staff effort to organise rather than volunteer effort, which contributes to the higher costs. As an example, the RADAR 2002 conference, whilst it was a great success, did attract adverse comment that the registration fees (~ £450 - nearly \$900) were unduly high - especially for academics and postgraduate students. For these reasons we have decided that the RADAR 2007 conference will not be run by the IEE, but in tandem with another conference organised by industry, though it will have IEE support.

4. Furthermore, it has been agreed that the IEE will merge with another organisation to form a new institution (the Institution of Engineering and Technology).

5. Of course, it's not just AESS that has been affected by these changes. The other UKRI Chapters have had similar experiences and are planning accordingly.

6. This therefore presents some important opportunities - to provide some new products/services - whilst still working collaboratively with the IEE (or its successor) where appropriate.

7. So particular proposals are:

- an annual prestige lecture. Can make use of the Distinguished Lecturers
- a decent website
- a series of one-day, relatively low-cost events of the type that the IEE no longer provides, more attractive to academics/students
- a graduate student fellowship to develop the website and provide help in promoting and arranging AES events (this was Marina's idea). I have identified a suitable candidate
- a conference on synthetic aperture radar and sonar, to be held in Italy in September 2006 at the NATO Undersea Research Centre, La Spezia. Will engage the Italian radar community (most of whom are members of both IEE

and IEEE), and (of course) Marina.

- two annual awards for postgraduate students and mid-career engineers.

Things that have already been done or in the immediate pipeline include:

- seminars on 'Differential data processing for radars with multiple receive channels' - Alexander Praskovsky, EnerLab, Fort Lauderdale, FL, and
- 'Small sea target detection for search and rescue operation' - Krzysztof Kulpa, Warsaw University of Technology, Poland
- a one-day event (organised jointly with the IEE) on Passive Radar. This was attended by 60 people, from 9 countries and 5 continents
- lecture by Myron Kayton (AES Distinguished Lecturer) on 'Electronics for manned spacecraft', to be held on 27 October

Best wishes,

Hugh