

Radar System Panel Meeting Summary **April 24, 2002**

Bob Trebits chaired the meeting of the Radar System Panel (RSP) in conjunction with the 2002 IEEE Radar Conference.

RADARCON 2002 Report

Ed Trujillo provided an initial report on the 2002 Radar Conference. The estimated attendance was 325, and the tutorial attendance was approximately 350. The budget for the conference was \$210K, and the estimated expenditures were \$210K. The estimated “profit” is expected to be about \$50K, and the exhibitors were pleased with the conference setup and response. Tom Miller, conference chair, reported that he has received good comments regarding the conference. Expenses were higher than expected. Papers were good on the whole, and the poster sessions got good attendance. The exhibitors were pleased because the food was located in the exhibit area.

Mark Davis commented that this was the best student session so far, and that Don Stuart was responsible for the student papers. Some comments from students were that they did not know about the conference, and there is a need to better inform the IEEE student chapters.

John Smith said that we need to formalize contact with the IEEE student chapters, and will take on the student contact list. Having the posters immediately outside the conference area help poster session attendance.

RADARCON 2003 Report

Bob McMillan provided a handout describing the status of the RADARCON 2003, which will be held at the Marriott Hotel in Huntsville, Alabama on May 5-8, 2003, and named the conference committee members. He reviewed the budget for the conference, that is based upon a conservative estimate of 250 attendees. The only comment on the budget was that the estimated \$480 expense for exhibits appeared to be low. He mentioned that the reception was planned to be at the Space and Rocket Center, and the schedule will be similar to previous conferences.

RADARCON 2004 Report

John Smith offered that Philadelphia might be a good place for the conference, and offered to determine if there was sufficient local interest to have one there. Mark Davis also offered to check with the Canadians to determine the possibility of having one possibly in Ontario, but expressed that he was not able to get much interest in previous years.

RADAR 2002 Report

Hugh Griffiths reported on the “International” radar conference, which will be held in Edinburgh, UK on 15-17 October 2002. The conference will be held in the same place as RADAR 1997 in the new conference center in Edinburgh. The papers have been selected, but Mark Davis commented that not enough US papers were submitted (only 10-15 papers). It was decided to have the next RSP panel meeting at RADAR 2002.

RADAR 2003 Presentation

Geoff Brownley said that RADAR 2003 will be held at the Adelaide Hilton on 3-5 September 2003 in Adelaide, Australia. The conference committee is organized and \$10,000 of seed money is in the bank. A preliminary conference announcement may be found at the URL www.cssip.edu.au/conferences/radar.

Awards Committee Report

Bob Trebits and the RSP thanked John Milan for the terrific job that he did over the years in heading up the awards committee. The chairmanship of the awards committee will be handed over next year to Mike Wicks.

Conference Committee Report

Dale Ausherman said that it was time for RADARCON 2004 selection, and that they would need a bid list. Dale would like to retire from the position and Mark Davis volunteered to take over the position.

The naming of the conferences was brought up for discussion, and Hugh Griffiths noted the five year rotation of “International” conferences. Stephen Johnston noted that RADAR XXXX designation was originally only for the UK and US conferences on a five year cycle, and that the other “International” Conferences had other names. Bob Hill noted that although the other conferences had other formal names, that the radar conferences in France, China have used RADAR XXXX as an colloquial name. Now Australia has joined the five year cycle replacing India, and will host RADAR 2003. Bob felt that it was good to encourage the RSP to endorse IEEE naming of RADAR XXXX for every year. Bob Hill will create a motion for naming of IEEE conference formal colloquial names for conferences and will e-mail out to RSP members for vote by May 20.

Radar Education Committee Report

John Smith reported that free entry into the radar conference should be encouraged. This year 10 students participated and were in addition provided funds for travel and lodging. He will try to establish a better list for people to contact regarding the student participation. There is also a need for the conference to document the procedure for obtaining student funding from AFOSR. There is also a need to contact the Navy and Army regarding possible funding sources.

Letter Band Standards Report

Joe Bruder reported on the results of the ballot on the revised “Letter Designations for Radar-Frequency Bands” standard P521. The balloting pool for this P521 standard consists of 13 members. For the standard to be approved at least 75% of the balloting pool must vote, and at least 75% of the vote in the balloting must be for approve. All 13 members voted (100%): 11 votes were for approval (84%) and 2 votes were for reject (16%). Each of the objection comments was discussed during the RSP meeting, and voted on individually to accept or reject to suggested remedy, or abstain from voting on that issue. All five of the suggested remedies were rejected.

New Business

Mark Davis commented on the scarcity of candidates for the Warren White award, and encouraged members to submit names of candidates who have made significant contributions. Candidates for the Picard award are also solicited.

Bob Hill note that:

- 1) Radar is being squeezed out of the frequency allocations, and that the RSP should take an active interest in maintaining current allocations, and
- 2) Suggested that the RSP take an interest in asteroid radar, and that it should be a possible subject for RADARCON 2003.
- 3)

Bob Trebits noted that the clock was ticking on the Radar Terminology Standard, and asked for a volunteer. Paul Hughes volunteered to be chair of the standards working group, and was confirmed by the RSP. Joe Bruder offered to help with the logistics on getting the standard PAR started.