

MEMORANDUM

To: AESS Board of Directors
From: Edward Reedy
Vice President of Publications
Subject: Vice President for Publications Report for Spring 2005 AESS Board Meeting
(2005 Aerospace Conference, Big Sky, Montana)
Date: March 7, 2005

1. General: Several issues are currently being addressed in the publications area. However, two major activities dominated the time of all members of the AESS publications team since our last Board meeting.

- 1) IEEE 5-Year Reviews

AESS underwent, simultaneously, at last Fall's IEEE Board Series in San Antonio (November 16 & 17, 2004) both an AESS overall Society Review and a TAB Publications Review of the AESS publications, the Systems Magazine and Transactions. The entire publications team prepared material for these two reviews. Evelyn Hirt pulled together the Magazine review material; Dale Blair the Transactions; and Joel Walker adapted their inputs for the AESS Review. Dave Dobson assisted with specific data and inputs to both reviews and assisted me with writing answers to some of the general questions. At least in the Pubs area, these two reviews requested considerable redundant information. Per IEEE Guidelines, both EICs attended the Pubs review (Dale Blair by Telecon). Paul Gartz, AESS Society President, and Ed Reedy, AESS Vice President for Publications, also attended and represented the Society.

Our Publications Review report was generally well received by the TAB Publications Review Committee. (Our report with PRC comments and our responses has now been completed and can be made available to any interested Board member.) By and large, their comments on the report represented a fair and balanced summary with a reasonable set of recommendations. There was nothing in their comments that surprised us. In addition, they commented positively on several aspects of the two publications. The biggest negative and concern was the low impact factor of the two AESS publications. The PRC also included some positive recommendations for improving our publications. Dale and Evelyn are currently evaluating the committee recommendations with respect to their plans for the Transactions and Magazine and reflecting these recommendations in their respective plans and goals for the next 3-5 years.

2) Plagiarism Complaint

A policy for handling plagiarism complaints was developed by Dale Blair and approved by the AESS Board. Fortunately, this policy was approved and in place, since in September 2004, it was necessary for Dr Blair to establish a committee to investigate an ethics/plagiarism complaint against a paper submitted to the Transactions. Following the approved procedures, Joel Walker chaired an investigative committee, which included Ed Reedy and Peter Willet. This committee, assisted by two outside opinions, concluded that there was no basis for the plagiarism complaint and publishing the paper is currently proceeding. The AESS Policy assisted greatly in adjudicating this complaint in a very efficient and professional manner. In fact, IEEE Headquarters commented very favorably on how this complaint was handled.

3) Electronic Editing and Manuscript Management

AESS has contracted with E--Journal Press for a web-based manuscript review process. It was first implemented with the Transactions and is now being extended to the Magazine with outstanding success. We are already experiencing the efficiencies. This new process has greatly streamlined the manuscript review process and reduced the administrative workload on our editors. In addition, Dale Blair estimates, AESS is saving about \$5000 per year over what the same service would cost through the IEEE.

2. Administrative Editor Report

Dave Dobson, Administrative Editor, reports that AESS will close the year with a page count of 1536 for the Transactions, 2.4% over budget and well within the 5% allowed. Included in the October issue was a combined index of all publications issued during the year, an antecedent chart of prior Transactions publications names and dates, and a cumulative index of Systems Magazine for the years 2000-2003. Systems Magazine issues continue to roll off the line monthly, with the usual variances in the mailing at or near the first of the month. The March issue is being mailed to all IEEE Student Branches, including a Student Membership Applications Form. We currently have on hand in storage 4870 copies of Tutorial I, January 2004, on which we pay storage costs. Dave needs help (from Chapters, Education, etc.) in identifying where copies should be distributed. Publication of Tutorial II is currently estimated for July 2005. Dave, Evelyn, and Joel Walker continue to express concerns about the lack of any significant inputs from the various AESS entities (from Board members on down) for the "Systems" Magazine. Are there suggestions for improving this situation?

3. "Transactions"

Dr Dale Blair, Editor-in-Chief of the "Transactions" continues to make new Editor and Associate Editor appointments. His most recent are summarized

in his report at Attachment I. Other items of interest, including the M. Barry Carlton Best Paper Award, plagiarism investigation and adjudication, and the new web-based editorial procedures and manuscript review process are also discussed in Dale's report.

4. "Systems" Magazine

Under Evelyn Hirt's leadership as Editor in Chief, the "Systems" Magazine continues its steady improvement. As previously indicated, news and information inputs to the magazine have improved. However, more inputs from AESS Officers and Chapters are still needed. Also, the Magazine is rapidly moving to the same web based manuscript review process as that used by the Transactions. In addition, Evelyn has appointed Dr Steven Stubberud of The Boeing Company as Navigation Systems Section Editor for the Systems Magazine.

In summary, the past several months have been very busy for members of the AESS publications team, and, at the same time, very productive. Our publications continue to expand and improve.

Attachments

Status of the IEEE Transactions on Aerospace and Electronic Systems

By

Dale Blair, Editor-In-Chief

February 21, 2005

Transactions Management

Lance Kaplan and Peter Willet continue to serve as Associate Editor-In-Chief. This structure helps us to provide a better product to our customers and improve the transition of Editor-In-Chief.

Lance Kaplan or I should attend the IEEE Panel of Editors Meeting in New Orleans, April 8-9, 2005.

Editors

- Moved Professor Gerard Lachapelle from Associate Editor for Navigation Systems to Editor for Navigation System. He replaces Joe Leva of MITRE.

Gerard is the CRC/CORE Chair in Wireless Location, Department of Geomatics Engineering, University of Calgary.

M. Barry Carlton Award

- 2002 M. Barry Carlton Award winner is:
 - “Outlier resistant adaptive matched filtering” by Karl Gerlach IEEE TAES, July 2002, pp 885-901.
- Nominations for 2003
 - “Analysis of the Impact of Non-Quadratic Optimization-based SAR Imaging on Feature Enhancement and ATR Performance” by Cetin, Karl, and Castanon
 - “Survey of Maneuvering Target Tracking: Pt. I: Dynamic Models,” by Li and Jilkov
 - “Bayesian Gamma Mixture Model Approach to Radar Target Recognition,” by Copsey and Webb
- Selection of the 2003 Award will be made in April 2005
- Selection of M. Barry Carlton Award will be made by a vote of the editors.
- Articles announcing the awards will appear in IEEE Systems Magazine.

Editorial Procedures

- Continued web-based review process hosted by E-Journal Press rather than the IEEE endorsed Manuscript Central. We have had good service from E-Journal Press and saved at least \$5000 per year.
 - Manuscript submission at <http://taes.msubmit.net>
 - 315 New manuscripts were received electronically in 2004
 - 96 Revised manuscripts were received electronically in 2004
 - Average review time is 118 days with a standard deviation of 43 days.

Other

- Supported the 5-year review of IEEE AESS publications by IEEE TAB.
- A decision of no plagiarism found was issued on the plagiarism complaint that was received in September 2004. A committee of Peter Willet, Joel Walker, and Ed Reedy along with two anonymous referees investigated the complaint and made the finding.
- Received a quote of \$12,000 – \$15,000 for preparing new pdfs for Vol. 35, 3 to 39, 1 (15 issues) to replace scanned pdfs that are currently available on IEEE Xplore. New pdfs will be word searchable, provide much better illustrations, and require less memory. IEEE HQ appears agreeable to changing the pdf files.
- Special Section in cooperation with the 2004 IEEE Radar Conference entitled “Innovative Radar Technologies – Expanding System Capabilities.” Dr.

Pierfrancesco Lombardo, Associate Editor for Radar Systems, will be overseeing/managing the review process.

- Special Section on “Knowledge-Based Signal Processing” is in progress. Guest editors are Dr. Joe Guerri and Dr. Bill Melvin.

Manuscript Tracking Report

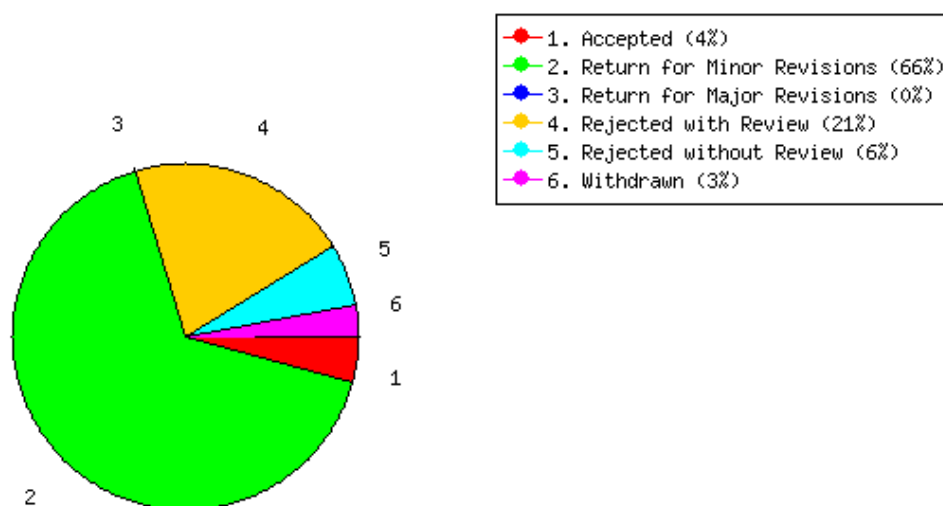
IEEE Transactions on Aerospace and Electronic Systems

Manuscript Tracking Report

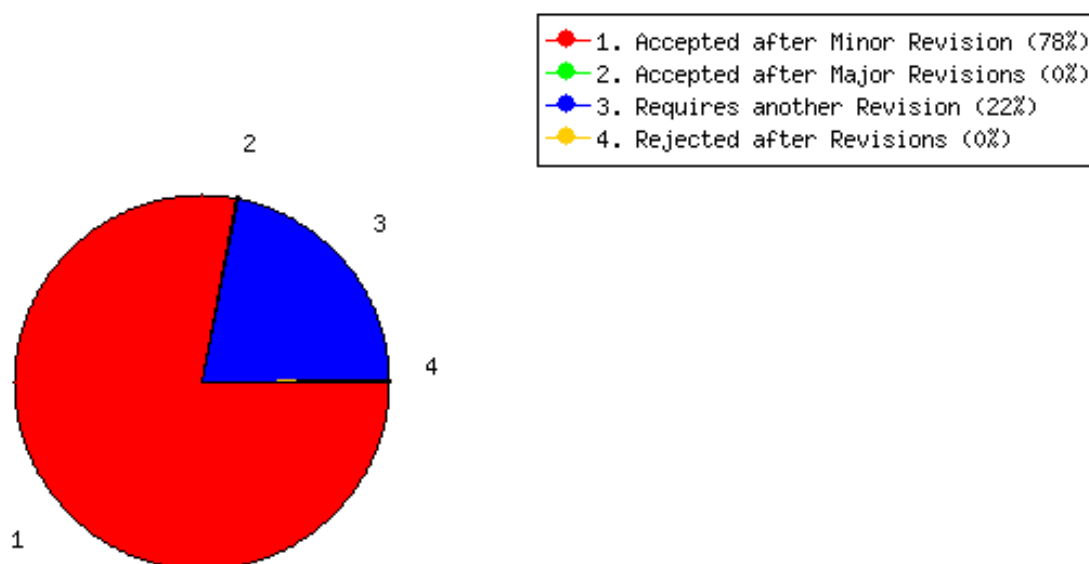
Report generated on February 21, 2005

	2004												
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Original Manuscripts Submitted	39	27	20	25	25	28	28	26	13	28	24	32	315
Revised Manuscripts Resubmitted	0	2	1	4	5	8	10	15	11	16	15	9	96
Manuscripts Accepted Without Revisions	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	2	2	2	0	9
Return with Minor Revisions	3	3	6	8	11	13	14	13	15	20	23	7	136
Return with Major Revisions	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Manuscripts Rejected	0	5	2	3	10	3	7	6	3	6	3	7	55
Rejected With Review	0	3	2	1	8	1	6	6	3	5	2	6	43
Rejected Without Review	0	2	0	2	2	2	1	0	0	1	1	1	12
Rejected After Revisions	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Requires Another Revision	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	2	2	2	2	1	12
Accepted After Minor Revisions	0	1	0	1	2	0	3	4	7	12	8	5	43
Accepted After Major Revisions	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Manuscripts Withdrawn	0	1	0	0	0	1	1	0	2	0	0	1	6
Original Manuscripts Not Withdrawn	39	26	20	25	25	27	27	26	11	28	24	31	309
Total Manuscripts Submitted (originals + revisions)	39	29	21	29	30	36	38	41	24	44	39	41	411

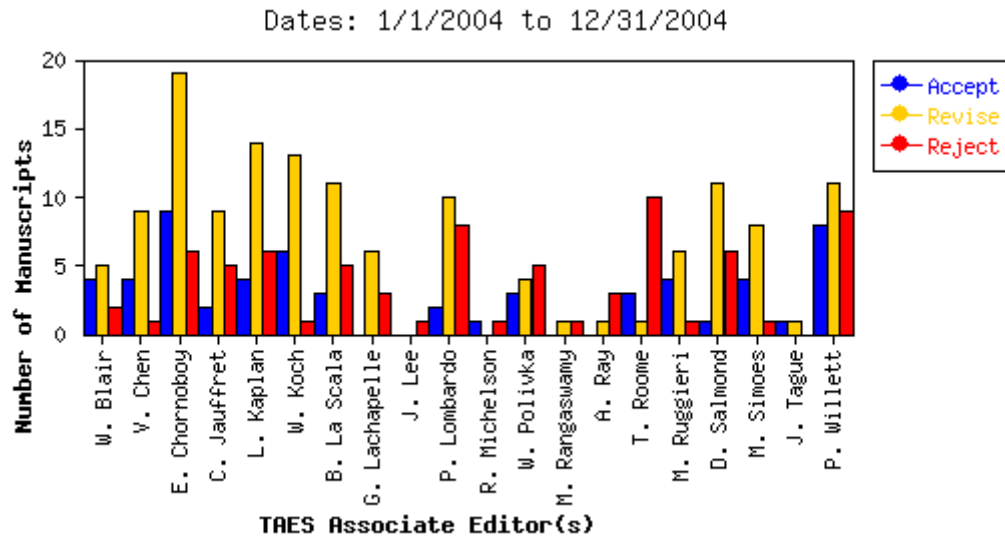
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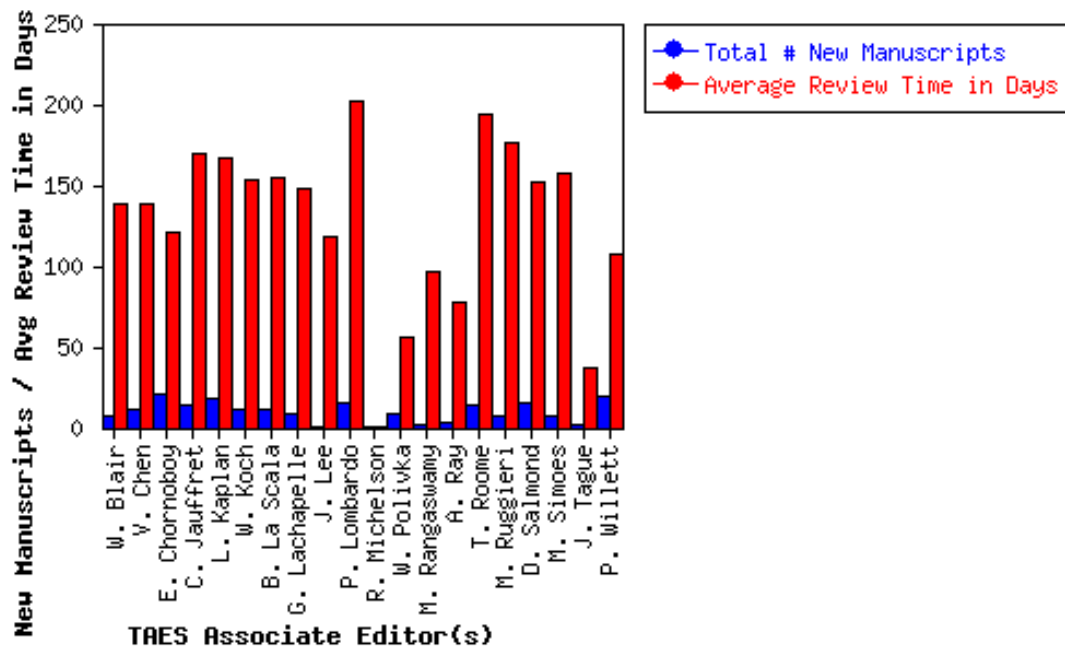
TAES Decision Tracking: Jan 2004 - Dec 2004 (Revisions Only)



IEEE Transactions on Aerospace and Electronic Systems
Associate Editor Manuscript Decision Chart
 February 21, 2005



IEEE Transactions on Aerospace and Electronic Systems
New Manuscript Summary Report
 February 21, 2005



IEEE Transactions on Aerospace and Electronic Systems
Revised Manuscript Summary Report
February 21, 2005

