MINUTES
2010 IEEE Nuclear and Plasma Sciences Society (NPSS)
Nuclear and Medical Imaging Sciences Council (NMISC) Annual General Meeting

Place: Room 301C, Knoxville Convention Center
Date and time: Friday, November 5, 2010, 12:00-13:30

Attendees:

Executive Officers:

Robert Miyaoka	Chairperson	University of Washington
Suleman Surti	Vice-Chairperson	University of Pennsylvania
Charles C Watson	Past Chairperson and 2010 MIC Deputy Chair	Siemens Medical Solutions USA Inc.
Tom Lewellen	2012 NSS-MIC General Chair Chair, RISC/NMISC Joint Oversight Subcommittee AdCom Representative	University of Washington
George Kontaxakis	Secretary Chair, Nominations Sub-Committee	Universidad Politécnica de Madrid, Spain
Joel Karp	TNS Senior Editor for Nuclear Medical and Imaging Sciences	University of Pennsylvania
Anna Celler	Chair, Awards/Fellows Sub-Committee	University of British Columbia, Canada
Eric C Frey	AdCom Representative	Johns Hopkins University

Related NPSS Positions:

Craig Woody	NPSS President	Brookhaven National Laboratory
Chuck Melcher	RISC Chairperson	University of Tennessee
Ed Lampo	RISC Vice-Chairperson AdCom Treasurer	
Ronald Keyser	2010 NSS-MIC General Chair	ORTEC
Craig Levin	2009 MIC Deputy Chair	Stanford School of Medicine
David Townsend	2011 NSS-MIC General Chair 2010 MIC Chair	Singapore Bioimaging Consortium
Alberto Del Guerra	2011 MIC Chair	University of Pisa, Italy
Vesna Sossi	2012 MIC Chair	University of British Columbia
Hee-Joung Kim	2013 NSS-MIC General Chair	Yonsei University, Korea
Jae Sung Lee	2013 MIC Chair	Seoul National University, Korea

NMISC Elected Members:
(term ending 2012):

Paul Lecoq	CERN, Switzerland
Jinyi Qi	University of California – Davis
Stefaan Tavernier	University of Brussels, Belgium
Dimitris Visvikis	INSERM, France

(term ending 2011):

Ronald J Jaszczak	Duke University (Prof. Emeritus)
Georges El Fakhri	Massachusetts General Hospital

(term ending 2010):

Dan J Kadrmas	University of Utah

NMISC 2010 candidates:

Adam M. Alessio	University of Washington
Jennifer Huber	Lawrence Berkeley Nat. Laboratory
Andrew J. Reader	McGill University
Arkadiusz Sitek	Brigham & Women's Hospital

Excuse:

Raymond F. Muzic, Jr	Chair of the Communications (Web) Sub-Committee	Case Western Reserve University
Irene Buvat	NMISC Member (2011)	CNRS, France
Krzysztof Iniewski	NMISC Member (2011)	Redlen Technologies Inc
David Gilland	NMISC Member (2010)	University of Florida
Katsuyuki "Ken" Taguchi	NMISC Member (2010)	The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine
Freek J. Beekman	NMISC Candidate	TU-Delft, The Netherlands
Jinhun Joung	NMISC Candidate	Korea University
Andrés Santos	NMISC Candidate	Universidad Politécnica de Madrid, Spain

Documentation distributed:

–   This meeting's agenda
–   Minutes, 2009 NMISC Annual Meeting

Meeting's Agenda:

1. Introduction and roll call - current members
2. Review and adoption of agenda
3. Approval of the minutes of meeting of October 30, 2009
4. Chair's report to NMISC
5. Status of 2010 NMISC election
6. 2009 NSS/MIC – Orlando (final)
7. 2010 NSS/MIC – Knoxville (to date)
8. 2011 NSS/MIC – Valencia (preview)
9. 2012 NSS/MIC – Anaheim (preview)
10. Report by Chair of NMISC/RISC Joint Oversight Sub-Committee
11. Report by Chair of NMISC Awards-Fellow Sub-Committee
12. Report by Chair of the Communications (Web) Sub-Committee
13. Report on NPSS AdCom activities
14. Other Business (i.e., amendment to Bylaws, site selection committee)

1. Welcome by Robert Miyaoka, NMISC Chair.

   George Kontaxakis announced that the meeting will be recorded for documentation purposes, with the unanimous agreement of all participants.

   Each of the attendees presented briefly themselves, their affiliation and relationship with the NMISC and NPSS.

2. The meeting's agenda is approved unanimously.

3. A motion was moved to accept the 2009 NMISC AGM minutes, carried unanimously, too.

4. Taking the opportunity of the presence at the meeting of the 2010 NMISC candidates, Robert Miyaoka

initiates the Chair's report by presenting an overview of the IEEE, its Technical Activities Board (TAB) and its 38 Technical Societies, one of which is the Nuclear and Plasma Sciences Society (NPSS). Within the NPSS there are nine Technical Committees (TC). One is the Nuclear Medical and Imaging Sciences TC (NMISTC), composed of all IEEE-NPSS members interested in the topics presented at the Medical Imaging Conference. Another is the Radiation and Instrumentation TC, governed by the Radiation and Instrumentation Steering Committee (RISC). The NMIS Council (NMISC) represents the interests of the NMISTC and constitutes its governing body. The NMISC is composed of 15 elected members, of which 5 new members are elected each year. In addition to the elected members, there is a Chair, elected for a term of 2 years and then passes to be the Most Recent Past Chair, a Vice-Chair that also serves for 2 years and after that becomes the Chair of the NMISC. Other officers of the NMISC comprise the Secretary and the Chairs of various sub-committees. Part of the NMISC forms also the RISC Chair, as en ex-officio member, as well as the TNS Senior Editor for Nuclear Medical and Imaging Sciences. The NMISC is responsible for the organization of the Medical Imaging Conference (MIC) and RISC is responsible for the organization of the Nuclear Science Symposium.

Since the RISC and NMISC are very tight together, there exists the Joint Executive Subcommittee (JES), comprised of the Chairs, the Vice-chairs and the Most Recent Past Chairs of the NMISC and the RISC. The JES appoints the Chair of the NSS/MIC Oversight Subcommittee (currently this person is Tom Lewellen), which is basically the conference site selection Committee. The Chairperson of the Oversight Subcommittee appoints the subcommittee's membership. This subcommittee is in charge of the site selection for the future NSS/MIC events and also decides on the General Chair of each NSS/MIC, who then selects the NSS and MIC Program Chairs, with endorsement from the NMISC and RISC. The role of the NMISC in that process is to provide oversight and policy guidance. During the past couple of years, special effort has been dedicated from part of the Oversight Subcommittee to present a summary of all site selection related activities to the NMISC and RISC before making any final decision.

Annex I contains the slide shown by Robert regarding the organizational chart for the NPSS, RITC and NMITC, and the respective councils, committees and subcommittees.

Highlights of the NMISC activities in 2010, and other issues to take into consideration:

- There has been a recent re-formatting of the NMISC Web page, which has been adapted to match the look and feel of the main NPSS site. Ron Huesman after many years of service as Chair of the Communications (Web) Subcommittee of the NMISC has stepped down and Ray Muzic has recently taken charge of this task.
- During 2010, there have been further efforts towards the establishment of a procedure for the automatic submission of TNS published papers to PubMed. This issue, however, has not yet been resolved by the IEEE. Charles Watson and Bill Moses are closely following the case from the NPSS side.
- There is an on-going process for the amendment of the NPSS Constitution and Bylaws,that the AdCom is in charge of. Robert points also out that the NMISC Constitution and Bylaws are revised normally every 5 years. Having the last review happened in 2007, the next such action will take place in 2012. Robert asks for volunteers to form a subcommittee to take care of this matter, expected to start works sometime in Fall 2011.
- There is a new regulation by the IEEE requesting that for each elected position there has to be at least 1.5 candidates. Since the NMISC has yearly 5 open positions for elected members, this means that there must be at least 8 candidates. As this requirement is not stated in the NMISC Bylaws, Robert indicates that it might be necessary to revise the Bylaws and adjust them to this new requirement. The current version of the NMISC Bylaws state to this point that:

    2.1 The Chairperson of the NMISC is responsible for ensuring that at least one nomination is made for each vacant post. Nominations may be made by any member of the NMISC or any member in good standing of the Committee. Self nominations are allowed.

Robert proposed the amendment (proposed changes highlighted) of this text as follows:

2.*1 The Chairperson of the NMISC is responsible for ensuring that* ==the number of nominations is no less than one and a half times the number of vacant posts (e.g., a minimum of eight nominations are required for five open committee positions)==. *Nominations may be made by any member of the NMISC or any member in good standing of the Committee. Self nominations are allowed.*

A motion to accept this modification has been carried out unanimously. It was commented however (Tom Lewellen, Craig Woody) that before any changes to the C&B are effective, the amendment shall be widely publicized (Web site, Newsletter, etc.).

5. George Kontaxakis gave a short report on the status of the NMISC membership and the 2010 NMISC elections. As Chair of the Nominations Subcommittee, George reminded that one third of the NMISC is renewed every year and appealed to the NMISC members to participate actively in seeking new candidates for each year's elections. Every member of the NPSS that is interested in MIC topics can nominate a candidate for the NMISC. Self-nominations are also accepted.

   George thanked in the name of the NMISC Dan Kadrmas, whose term ends in 2010, as well as David Gilland, and Katsuyuki Taguchi, who were not able to attend the AGM this year. S. Surti's term also ends in 2010, however he stays as Vice Chair, and G. Kontaxakis stays as Secretary of the NMISC.

   In 2010 there were initially 5 candidates nominated, whose candidatures have been passed to the IEEE for final eligibility checks. At that point, a warning was received informing on the non-compliance with the new TAB regulation that requires at least 8 candidates for 5 open positions. It was possible to recruit another two candidates, and the total number of 7 (Freek Beekman, Adam Alessio, Jennifer Huber, Jinhun Joung, Arkadiusz Sitek, Andrés Santos, and Andrew Reader) has been finally accepted by the IEEE, considering the fact the new regulations took effect while the NMISC nominations procedure was already on-going this year. This process was on-going during the meeting and foreseen to conclude in mid-November.

   Regarding elections for the AdCom, candidates are George El Fakhri and Alberto Del Guerra, running for one open position with term starting in 2011.

6. Report on the 2009 MIC by Craig Levin (2009 MIC Program Vice Chair) presenting slides provided by Ramsey Badawi:

   2009 IEEE MIC, held at the Hilton Disney World Hotel in Orlando Florida from October 25 to 31, 2009. No data on attendance were available. There were 581 submitted scientific papers (in comparison to 761 submitted in 2008) of which 514 were accepted. The relatively low rejection rate demonstrates the high quality of the submitted papers. There were 84 oral presentations and 3 invited talks.

   The Premium Poster concept was tried again (last tried in 2005). Premium posters got additional space and were positioned at the front of the hall. Immediate feedback received at the conference regarding Premium Posters was positive. Premium posters were found to make the job of selecting orals for the required sessions easier. Both the reception and the MIC dinner at Disney were successful (thanks to Tom Lewellen in particular). No speaker was provided for the MIC dinner, and the absence was not noted. The abstract review process was reasonably smooth - a strict policy on deadlines was found quite helpful – particularly regarding compliance by the reviewers. Craig thanked particularly Arman Rahmim who volunteered to help with clarifying cases of rejections as well as borderline orals.

   Numbering the posters with labels prior to the presenters mounting them remains a problem and has to be done with a large number of volunteers in a short space of time. The labels were generated using the label generator in Microsoft Word – a task that requires a moderate level of expertise. Craig asked if the website database could be of any help to make this task easier. Charles Watson mentioned that for the 2010 MIC he printed out the labels using Microsoft Excel. Craig continued that there were maps created to guide

attendees to the posters however this initiative was not found particularly successful. It might be worth considering printing much larger posters with guides to the layout. This would need to be done fairly late in the process, as the final layout was changing till quite close to the poster presentations. The discussion derived to some issues that would allude to the use of high-end technologies, such as flat panel screens for premium posters or viewing posters directly on smart-phones, etc.

Craig finally addressed the issue of best paper and best poster awards, there were a total of 5 awards, top two of them cash awards and the rest were acknowledged by certificates. He suggested that the names of the awardees are visible on the Web site of the conference for the next year, so that wider recognition is given to those awards, that are usually not being paid sufficient attention since they are awarded during the last day of the conference. This is important not only to provide recognition to the person that has been awarded but also to disseminate the importance of the topic of their work. In the 2009 MIC those awards were chosen from the poster presentations, and not only among the premium posters, as the oral presentations have been considered as recognized enough to be allocated time in an oral session. The selection was performed by a team of about 10 people, who based their evaluation not only on the abstract review score, but also on the evaluation of the on-site performance of the poster presenter and the quality of the poster itself.

Charles Watson suggested that a written guidance for the Program Chairs is provided on how papers have been ranked, how the cut-off line for orals and posters has been decided and how papers have been sorted into sessions, how student posters have been awarded, etc. Craig answered that in their case they solicited suggestions and guidance via e-mail from previous Program Chairs, however a good alternative would have been the setup of a Wiki-based site, where Program Chairs are able to upload lessons learned from the conferences they have organized, suggestions and remarks, etc.

7. Report on the 2010 MIC by David Townsend, 2010 MIC Program Chair:

There were 603 papers submitted, of which 65 were rejected (11% rejection rate), 88 assigned as oral presentations (16% success rate for orals) and 440 poster presentations, and 10 were selected for the joint sessions. David shows the distribution of abstract submissions by country (shown in Annex II, those with less than 3 submissions are not shown), mentioning that about 55% of the submissions came from the USA and also a significant number of abstracts has been received from Spain (27), where the 2011 MIC will take place. The number of registered attendees was 1985, as of the day before this meeting at 16:00 hours (it resulted that seven people more have been registered since then, raising the total number to 1992 attendees).

There has been only one workshop this year, organized by Paul Marsden and Stefan Vandenberghe on PET/MRI, which was attended by approximately 150. There were additionally three refresher courses coordinated by Vladimir Panin in successive days, on "Basics of MR" (Greg Sorenson), "Scintillators" (Chuck Melcher) and "Basics of CT" (Marc Kachelriess) attended by approximately 100 per session. There were four joint sessions and two plenary sessions: Greg Sorensen MD (MGH, Harvard) spoke on "Mechanistic Imaging and MR-PET" and Prof. Antony Campbell (Cardiff Univ, UK), a medical biochemist and expert on bioluminescence talked about "Life that sparkles". Thirteen oral sessions were organized, of which eight have been organized in the form of two parallel sessions. Finally, five poster sessions took place, in a very spacious area of the Congress Hall, something that was much appreciated and very positively commented on by many attendees, as it has been setup to avoid/reduce congestion at poster sessions. There were a maximum of 100 posters per session.

The MIC dinner was scheduled for the night of Friday starting at 19:00 hours at the "Foundry", located at walking distance from the Conference Center. Cocktails were scheduled followed by dinner, and the Bluegrass band amusing attendees during cocktails/dinner. After dinner Prof. Anthony Campbell would speak on:" Charles Darwin: An inspiration for the 21st century".

Regarding student paper awards, they were selected among the best 12 oral or poster presentations based

on reviewer scores. These papers were judged by an international panel of reviewers, which David thanked particularly. The top 4 papers were selected for awards.   1st and 2nd place would receive $500 each and a certificate. The 3rd and 4th place winners would each receive a certificate. Winners were expected to be announced at the end of the final session on Saturday. Finally, David requested nominations for the IEEE Medal for Innovations in Health Care Technology, as he is currently standing in the Selection Board.

Craig Levin raised the question if the exhibitors would be willing to stay for an extra day at the meeting, as they usually leave on Thursdays. It turned out that the exhibitors were willing to stay until 18:00 on Thursday, however they reported that very few visitors appears through the stands after the coffee break that day, and apparently already after lunch traffic had reduced significantly that day.

There was a question on the poster numbering and if there were enough data collected this year in order to identify the main problems related to that issue and possibly improve things for the next years. Charles Watson answered that despite the fact NSS adopted this year a totally different scheme for the poster sessions organization, the MIC maintained the conventional approach, that was grouping papers on similar topics and laying them out sequentially, then "slicing" into sections: every fifth paper has been allocated to the same session, in a way that not all papers of the same topic are presented at the same poster session. The only innovation made this year was to indicate on the label of each poster the thematic area to which the poster belonged. NSS opted for a large number of poster sessions, in parallel with orals.

8.   Report on the progress of the 2011 MIC by Alberto Del Guerra, 2011 MIC Program Chair:

The Conference will be held in Valencia, Spain, during the period Sunday 23 -Saturday 29 of October. The plan foresees MIC short courses on Sunday and Monday, NSS-MIC joint sessions on Tuesday, MIC opening & plenary session on Wednesday, MIC dinner on Friday and closure on Saturday afternoon. The MIC oral sessions have been planned in parallel (maximum two). There will also be 4 to 6 poster sessions, depending on number of submissions and space available. Posters will be up on Wednesday night and removed on Saturday afternoon. There are two locations for the poster sessions, in the hotels Hilton and Sorolla, however the final setting is still under consideration.

The MIC refresher courses will continue, considering their success during the current and the past MICs, pending the definition of the topics for those courses. About the rejection rate, an estimate of 20% might be set for the 2011 MIC, considering that according to Alberto a high rejection rate might increase the scientific value of the conference. There will be no MIC conveners, however there are two plenary talks scheduled and the awards session will be probably shifted to take place during the MIC dinner, in order to avoid a long awards ceremony in the main MIC program.

Alberto proposes a division of the main topics in "hardware-like" and "software-like", something that might facilitate the programming of two parallel oral sessions, one for each of these categories. Furthermore, a separate topic on hadron therapy will be proposed, despite the fact this thematic area did not count with a significant number of submissions during the 2010 MIC. No workshops have been planned, as there is no need to attract new attendees anymore - with 2000 estimated registrants the limit of the site's capacity is being reached - and the workshop topics used to overlap thematically with the regular conference sessions. Workshops not covering the MIC topics, however, could be organized within the framework of the conference only at the end of MIC program (i.e., Saturday afternoon-onwards), or eventually at the beginning of the Conference.

Prof. Willi Kalender (Erlangen University, Germany) has confirmed his participation as plenary speaker, his proposed title for the talk: " Is there still room for research in CT?". Dr. Cristopher Bert (GSI, Germany) is being considered as the second plenary speaker, with a proposed title for the talk: "Radiobiology, Hadrontherapy, and Medical Imaging: a new paradigm for cancer treatment". There is a reservation however if the presence of two German speakers might create any kind of conflict with the MIC being celebrated in Spain. For the MIC Dinner (TBC), Mr. Luis Fernández-Galiano, an architect and also biologist has been considered, with a proposed talk on: "The law of Biology and the Spanish

architecture" (to be confirmed). The location of the dinner is proposed to be the "City of Arts and Sciences" at Valencia's port.

Ron Keyser commented regarding the posters sessions being held in two different locations and the conflict this might cause to the exhibitors, who might complain about this dispersion.

Some discussion has been generated on the issue of the rejection rate, estimated to a level of 20% for the 2011 MIC, in contrast with the rejection rate in NSS and RTSD, which are historically much lower. From a different point of view, it was also suggested that the number of attendees does not relate directly to the number of accepted papers, but to the number of abstracts submitted. Alberto Del Guerra presented the example of the ECR conference (or similar conferences such as the EANM Annual Meeting), where the rejection rate can be un to 50% however the number of attendees is increasing during the past years. Craig Woody strongly suggested that from the NSS side a more strict criterion should be applied in paper acceptance, so that the main purpose of attending shall remain the conference attendance and not the opportunity to just fly over to Spain, considered as an attractive location for leisure. Charles Watson proposed that instead of using paper rejection as a surrogate for limiting the size of the meeting, why not restrict registrations, i.e., allow 2000 - 2500 people to register and then receive submissions and judge them based on their merits and not with the view of restricting people attending. This however might create a conflict in case of overbooking and authors of accepted papers not being allowed to register in order to present. Another point raised by Paul Lecoq and seconded by Anna Celler was the suggestion to ask authors of similar submissions to merge/group their presentations, something that is being currently followed by the SNM or other similar conference organizers.

9. Report on the progress of the 2012 MIC by Tom Lewellen, 2012 NSS/MIC/RTSD General Chair:

The Conference has been planned for the period of October 27 (Saturday) - November 3 (Saturday), at Disneyland Hotel, Anaheim, California. The majority of the program committee has been formed with the first full committee meeting having taken place the week of the current MIC and the next has been planned for Spring 2011. The general status is the following:

The hotel contract has been signed (base room rate has been negotiated to $169, 10% of block for students at $128, and 10% for government rate - includes internet and airport bus transfer). The budget has been approved and advance payment is in the account. The current budget foresees a base registration fee (member pre-registration) at $500. The first on-site walk of the General Chair and the Local Arrangements chair has been done at the end of 2009. The site offers a variety of restaurants, shops, bars, etc., at a walking distance from the conference hotel.

10. Report by Tom Lewellen, Chair of the NMISC/RISC Joint Oversight Sub-Committee on the 2013 MIC in Korea and the site selection for future events.

Regarding the 2013 Conference, the committee has been formed and the NSS and MIC Program Chairs have been approved by the respective Technical Committees. A full committee meeting being held in Knoxville this week. The budget has been formulated and submitted for approval to NPSS and IEEE, which means that activities for the Korea event have been initiated quite early. The next step to be done is the closure of the COEX contract. Hotel contracts to follow.

Regarding the 2014 event, an initial city list included: Seattle, Denver, Albuquerque, Phoenix, Houston, San Antonio, San Diego, San Francisco, Vail. Preliminary proposals were obtained for all the cities and summarized (sent out to the RISC and NMISC). The Oversight Committee voted on a rank order based on the preliminary proposals and the comments received from RISC and NMISC. Seattle, Denver, and Albuquerque ranked as the top three and these were site visited during July and August. The site visit report was sent to the RISC and NMISC members and rank order preferences requested. OS committee reviewed the site visit report, and exchanged comments, and then did a rank order vote. All three rank orders (OS, RISC, and NMISC) put Seattle as first choice. Hence the recommendation is for Seattle. The

General Chair for 2014 will be Tony Lavietes and Ed Lampo will be the Deputy Chair. The two major hotels (Sheraton and Hyatt) adjacent to the Convention Center in Seattle have verbally agreed to provide Government rates. Further facilities include a railway connecting the airport with the convention center and the hotels in Seattle. Numerous attractions will be available at walking distance.

Regarding the 2015 site selection, Tom Lewellen mentioned that the process has just started, with a proposal having been submitted via e-mail from Strasburg, expecting offers from the Netherlands and two sites in the UK (Manchester and Glasgow). Therefore, there is a high probability that the 2015 NSS/MIC will again take place in Europe. Site visits will begin sometime in April 2011, however Tom requested further feedback and proposals to be submitted to the Oversight Committee in order to evaluate them.

11. Anna Celler presented the report on the activities of the NMISC Awards-Fellow Sub-Committee. The 2010 Awards have been judged by a Committee of 6 experts (Osama Mawlawi, Arkadiusz Sitek, and Laurence Zeng from USA, and Freek Beekman, George Kontaxakis and Dimitris Visvikis from Europe).

The 2010 Edward J. Hoffman Medical Imaging Scientist Award was given to Prof. Richard Leahy. Citation: "For significant and sustained contributions to inverse problems in medical imaging and for dedication to graduate training". Nominator: Abhijit J. Chaudhari, Ph.D.

The 2010 Bruce H. Hasegawa Young Investigator Medical Imaging Science Award was given to Dr. Xin He. Citation: "For contributions to evaluation of image quality for 3-class tasks". Nominator: Eric C. Frey, PhD.

Anna Celler raised the question on how to solicit more nominations, that would be also submitted within the established time limits - this year there were submissions at the very last minute. She suggested that NMISC awards should be further advertised, stressing the point that the nomination procedure is straightforward. The other issue refers to the extension of the eligibility for the Young Investigator award to people with more than 6 years past PhD (for example 10 years after the PhD). Anna stress the point that as many researchers as possible need to be informed about the existence of these awards. Alberto Del Guerra suggested that a message is sent to the Conference Information Promotion (CIP) Committee which can then spread the word to all conference attendees of the last years. Jennifer Huber advocated in favor of the extension of the time limit to 10 years after PhD in order to also appeal to people that are in a transition phase in their careers, have changed field, etc., also seconded by Alberto Del Guerra, who mentioned that especially in Europe many researchers use to change career directions after their PhD. Charles Watson counter-proposed to limit to 6 years in the field instead of 6 years post-doc, arguing that 10 years after the PhD refer to persons that cannot be considered "Young" at that stage. Some further discussion has been generated referring to the issue that between the people typically eligible for the Bruce Hasegawa Award (young researchers) and those eligible for the Hoffman Award (typically very senior researchers) there might still be a gap for people that are at 10 or 15 years past their PhD and might not easily fit into the call for the Hoffman Award. Robert Miyaoka proposed that a list of questions is sent for discussion by the NMISC before reaching a final decision for next year's call for awards.

12. Eric Frey reported on the NPSS AdCom activities for the period since the past NMISC meeting in 2009. The following issues have been addressed:

   – Financially, 2009 was better year for the NPSS than 2008
     - approximately $5 million in reserves
     - $108,000 surplus in 2009
     - On budget for 2010 as of past July.
     - Net loss from network shop operations
     - $45k to network shop for software changes (Website, conference budgeting/tracking software)
     - IEEE and TAB are in good fiscal shape. It is possible that 3% of reserves and 50% of prior year's surplus can be spent on new initiatives.
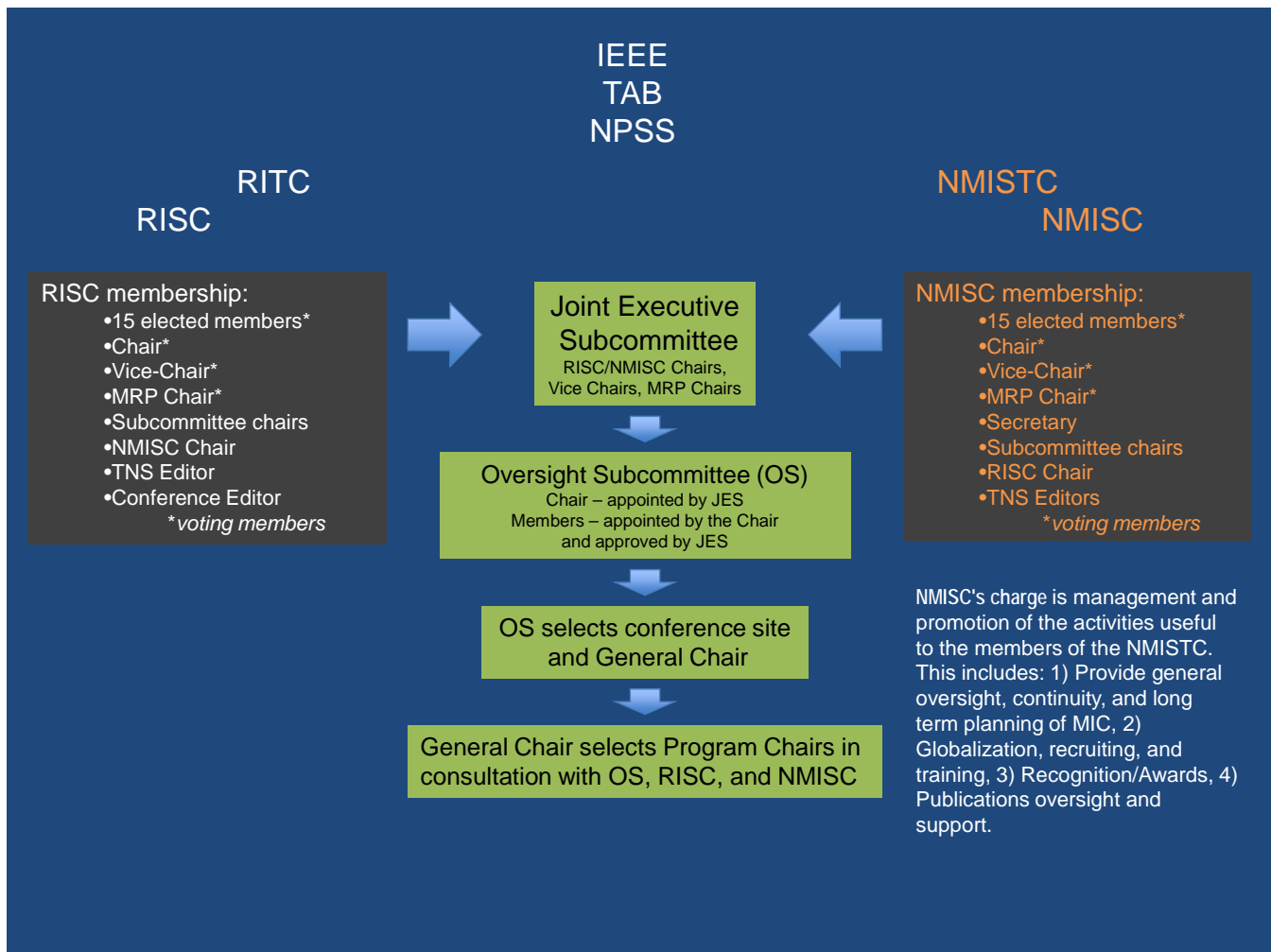
- – Bill Moses is collecting data in standardized form on conference attendance, etc.
  - Attendees by region
  - Number of abstracts accepted/submitted
  - Short course information
  - Exhibitor information
  - etc.
- – First year for Curie Award (funded previously out of NPSS Reserves): Ned Birdsall (NPSS member)
- – 18 Fellow candidates submitted to IEEE Fellows Committee (1/2 from Plasma). Nominators must be sure to nominate deserving people.
- – Some ($10k) support from NPSS for use of services of IEE Conferences Services in negotiating hotel contracts, etc.
- – Drop in NPSS members from 2008 to 2009, but increase from 2009-2010. Continuing discussion of member recruitment and effort to send materials and people to conferences to promote membership, especially young members (GOLD=graduates of the last decade)
- – Distinguished lecturer program provides money and list of lecturers/lectures for NPSS chapters to invite these.
- – Issue of technical co-sponsorship of conferences discussed many times. Requirement for NPSS members to be actively involved in conference organization.
- – Field of Interest statement revised and submitted to IEEE TAB. This describes area our society was interested in. It was too long and was made shorter and more general.
- – Bylaws are being reviewed and brought into conformance with IEEE requirements. Vote at Saturday's Adcom meeting.
- – Support for Women in Engineering events at meetings (including NSS/MIC)
- – NPSS sent a letter to IEEE Publications in support of automatic submission of NIH-funded papers to PubMed Central. This was initially not approved, but there is hope it will be in the future.
- – Application to have IEEE TNS indexed in PubMed is being resubmitted.
- – Member survey from last year asked for more review articles. Need authors/topics.

Jennifer Huber suggested that the GOLD and the Women in Engineering meetings that take place within the MIC/NSS do not actually occur at the same time, in order to give the opportunity to people interested on both activities to attend both meetings.

13. Robert Miyaoka said that the NMISC would support the permanence of Tom Lewellen as Chair of the Oversight Sub-Committee for 2011. As no further questions or comments were posed,

Meeting adjourned at 13:35 pm.

Annex I - Organizational chart for the NPSS, RITC and NMITC

IEEE
TAB
NPSS

RITC
RISC

NMISTC
NMISC

RISC membership:
- 15 elected members*
- Chair*
- Vice-Chair*
- MRP Chair*
- Subcommittee chairs
- NMISC Chair
- TNS Editor
- Conference Editor
  voting members

Joint Executive Subcommittee
RISC/NMISC Chairs,
Vice Chairs, MRP Chairs

NMISC membership:
- 15 elected members*
- Chair*
- Vice-Chair*
- MRP Chair*
- Secretary
- Subcommittee chairs
- RISC Chair
- TNS Editors
  voting members

Oversight Subcommittee (OS)
Chair – appointed by JES
Members – appointed by the Chair
and approved by JES

OS selects conference site
and General Chair

General Chair selects Program Chairs in
consultation with OS, RISC, and NMISC

NMISC's charge is management and promotion of the activities useful to the members of the NMISTC. This includes: 1) Provide general oversight, continuity, and long term planning of MIC, 2) Globalization, recruiting, and training, 3) Recognition/Awards, 4) Publications oversight and support.

Annex II - 2010 abstract submission by country

United States	254	Australia	10
Germany	58	India	7
Japan	32	Finland	6
United Kingdom	29	Iran	6
Spain	27	Hungary	6
Canada	26	Poland	5
South Korea	21	Greece	5
China	19	Taiwan	4
Belgium	17	Ireland	4
France	16	Switzerland	3
Netherlands	13	Ukraine	3
Italy	12	Denmark	3