

**SOCIETY ON SOCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF
TECHNOLOGY**

**ADCOM MEETING
DECEMBER 9, 1989**

ATTENDEES

| | | |
|---------------|-------------------------|--------------|
| N. Balabanian | President | 315-443-2652 |
| C. Barus | Chmn. Awards | 215-544-6130 |
| J.M. Benjamin | Sec'y. | 215-438-9729 |
| J. Bogumil | | 212-862-3188 |
| R.H. Brook | EMC/S Liason | 516-595-3136 |
| J.L. Jatlow * | Chmn. Membership | 212-758-0798 |
| H.F. Lipson | | 201-531-5785 |
| R. Newcomb | Div. X | 301-454-6869 |
| J.M. Osepchuk | Div IV | 617-860-3041 |
| R.K. Raney | Pres., GRS/S | 613-993-4475 |
| A. Robbi | Past Pres. 201-596-3503 | |
| C. Specter | Div. IX | 305-554-2791 |
| S. Unger | Past Pres. 914-353-5375 | |

* Jatlow address Jan thru Mar.'90: 5860 N.W.44 St. Apt404
Lauderhill, FL, 33319 Phone: 305-731-0148

Unger reported that Gerald Rabow could not attend because he's in the hospital. His home phone number is 201-992-4014. Call him!

1,2) WELCOME, INTRO., AGENDA ADOPTION

Attached Agenda was adopted as presented.

3) APPROVAL OF 9/9/89 MINUTES

Approved with 4th item "r.f.hazards" changed to "electro-magnetic hazards"

4) PRESIDENT'S REPORT

A two person subcommittee was appointed to look into the 'reviewing procedure' and 'legitimacy' of the 'Vibrator' paper in the June '89 T&S Journal. They reported at the Nov. '89 TAB meeting that all was in order.

As a result of objections by several Society Presidents, the previous TAB motion to investigate SSIT was rescinded.

5) PAST PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Tony Robbi announced that he is now a member of the ad hoc Magazine Monitoring committee. It will, among other things, be looking at our T&S Journal. Patricia Walker is the IEEE Staff member assigned to work on this committee.

6) TREASURER'S REPORT

Pres. Balabanian reported that Treasurer Apter stated he continues to be unable to get useful information from headquarters regarding our financial position. Balabanian stated that officers of several other Societies have experienced similar difficulty. The best we seem able to do is to average annual income and expense totals for several years to get some rough idea of our finances.

7) OTHER SOCIETY LIAISONS

See attached report by Gardner.

Benjamin reported having made contact with the newly formed American Engineers for Social Responsibility (AERS). He explored with them the possibility of a joint project to set up a legal fund for the protection of whistleblowers. Jatlow suggested we offer AERS the use of T&S for any announcements, ads or notes that are not of too timely a nature. *Benjamin will explore this.*

ASME and IIT are sponsoring an Ethics Conference. More details later.

9) STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

9.1) Awards - Barus

The "Institute" of July '89 reported an organization that gives 'Whistleblower' awards.

Carl is investigating two possibilities for 'Whistleblower' awards: Joust from Morton Thiokol, and several people from the Comanche Park Nuclear Reactor.

Jatlow suggested T & S writeup any SSIT member who receives an award or is elected a fellow. This was informally approved with the observation that the SSIT membership roiles presently include several pages of Fellows!

Benjamin reported that Cassedy had asked him to suggest Ms. Wertheimer, the worker who painstakingly and at her own expense and professional reputation established a link between 60 Hz. fields and incidences of cancer. After considerable discussion, it was decided that she did not qualify. Some felt she was not at professional or personal risk; others that she was not even in engineering, let alone electrcial engineering. Still others considered her work still in question.

It was noted that the change in the Awards definition passed last year needed further ratification in accordance with our Bylaws. Robbi moved and Unger seconded a mtion to approve the amendment to the Awards definition. Passed unanimously for the 2nd and last time required.

9.2) Publications

Specter reported that publication plans are progressing on schedule toward the special Disarmament issue. Three prominent workers in the field are going to submit papers. A call for Papers is being published in several IEEE journals. Balabanian will see that Zelby contacts the 2 special Editors of the Disarmament issue.

Bogumil reported that the September issue of T & S will be out in December. The IEEE staff has not yet received the material for this issue. The publishing process is in a 'rapid state of change' but so far this is not yet seen at the output. Balabanian reported that Welchel says there is more than enough material for the December issue of T & S.

9.3) Conferences

Brook gave a Status Report on the 1990 EMC Symposium. See attached summary.

Specter gave Status Report on the Int'l. Geoscience and Remote Sensing Symposium to be held May 20-24, 1990 in Greenbelt, MD. Many prominent international speakers have been obtained (see attached Summary). The social implications of this work in the third world countries will be featured. 700 to 80 attendees are expected.

It was recognized that this was the last meeting for Specter as Div. IX member. She was appointed by Balabanian as Chmn. of the Conference Committee with appreciation from all members of the ADCOM present.

Benjamin reported on the Los Angeles 'Carnahan Conference'. Further glowing accounts were given by Robbi and Barus, all of whom had participated. Much discussion ensued regarding the Conference request for \$5,000 to help with proceedings publications costs. It was decided that we should first get an accounting of the Conference costs. Benjamin was asked to find the '88 Minute that approved the expenditure. (Note: I have reviewed the Feb., May, Sept., and Dec. '88 minutes. All contain references to the conference, but none reports specific discussion of our participation in funding. I recall our informal discussion at one of the meetings that we fund provision of the IEEE mailing list as we had done at past Carnahan Conferences. --- Benjamin)

Osepchuk moved and Barus seconded that we authorize Balabanian to contribute up to \$1,500 without further ADCOM discussion.. Beyond this, the matter will be brought up again at the next ADCOM meeting. This was passed unanimously.

Specter suggested that she (and others) attend a workshop on organization of Conferences.

9.4) Membership - Jatlow

The Active membership at November '89 was 2,500. This is approximately the same as at this time in '88.

The new Membership Brochure was distributed at the Conference in L.A. The Chairman wrote a letter of appreciation regarding its effectiveness. Jatlow has distributed copies to all SSIT Chapter Chairmen. Additional copies may be obtained by calling 800-678-4333.

9.5) Nominations/Elections - Unger

The nominations have been turned in to headquarters for processing.

Robbi nominated and Unger seconded that Norman Balabanian be President and Al Wald be Vice President. Passed by acclamation.

Unger then reported on further meetings of the IEEE Board of Directors Ethical Code Revisions Committee. Some of his recommendations were accepted, but he lost the 'Feerst Amendment' battle! The draft now goes back to the B.O.D.

9.6,7) Chapters/ PACE - Gardner

Gardner's written reports are appended.

10) Next Meeting Date

The next meeting dates were set for March 17 and May 19, 1990.

14) Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 P.M.