

Acoustical Oceanography Minutes of the Meeting, San Diego, CA

These are the minutes from the Acoustical Oceanography (AO) Technical Committee (TC) meeting from the 162nd Acoustical Society of America (ASA) Meeting in San Diego, CA October 31- November 4, 2011. The TC meeting was held Tuesday November 1, 2011 from 7:30 PM until 9:00 PM and was chaired by Martin Siderius the Acoustical Oceanography Technical Committee Chair. There were approximately 100 attendees.

- The TC congratulated Bill Kuperman, the winner of the 2011 Munk Award. This is awarded jointly by The Oceanography Society, the Office of Naval Research and the Office of the Oceanographer of the Navy. It was announced that Bill will present the Munk lecture, “Underwater Acoustics and Acoustical Oceanography” on Wednesday Nov. 2.
- The TC thanked the student paper judges who volunteered for the San Diego meeting.
- The TC thanked Aaron Thode for being the AO TC representative for the San Diego meeting.
- The TC recognized Peter Gerstoft and thanked him for serving as Technical Chair for the San Diego meeting.
- The TC recognized Mike Buckingham and thanked him for serving as General Chair for the San Diego meeting.
- The special sessions from the San Diego meeting were reviewed:
 - The organizers from the Van Holliday Memorial Special session were Whit Au, Kelly Benoit-Bird, Mike Buckingham and Tim Stanton. They reported that the session was a big success and that the family members that were present were welcomed and recognized at the session as well as a long time colleague. The organizers were thanked by the TC.
 - The organizers for the Steve Schock session were Altan Turgut, DJ Tang and George Frisk. They reported that the session went very well and was recorded. The recording will be provided to Steve Schock and will be available to ASA members. The organizers were thanked by the TC.
- Reminders for the Hong Kong meeting were given. M. Siderius is the TPOM representative for Hong Kong. Notice of the abstract deadline was given and it was pointed out that the registration fee is due at the time of abstract submission. Some of the other details about the meeting were then provided by the Chair and discussed. Some issues were raised about ONR supported travel and the need to have abstracts reviewed by ONR. This was taken as an action item for the Chair and George Frisk (to inquire from ONR for more details). About half the attendees indicated they intend to submit an abstract.
- Future meetings were announced for Kansas City, Montreal, San Francisco, Providence and Indianapolis.
- The Hong Kong special session was discussed next, the session is called, “New technologies for monitoring fish- Active and Passive” and organized by Orest Diachok, Koji Iida and Kouichi Sawada. This special session will focus on recent advances in multibeam and broadband technologies for monitoring the behavior, concentrations and migration patterns of fish. It will include presentations on recent technical innovations and resulting discoveries about fish

behavior. Orest Diachok indicated there has been some difficulty getting invited speakers. There were complaints about the expense involved in travel to Hong Kong.

- A single special session was proposed and accepted by the TC for Kansas City. This is the Clarence Clay memorial session. Session is being organized by Dezhang Chu and Tim Stanton. Several people indicated this was a very appropriate session and particularly well suited for Kansas City.
- Preliminary suggestions for the Montreal special sessions were next discussed. Two were proposed and accepted by the TC. The first was proposed by Ross Chapman and will be a memorial session for Bob Chapman. This will be organized by Ross Chapman and Orest Diachok. Ross Chapman gave a very brief summary of Bob Chapman's contributions. Orest readily endorsed this idea and the TC agreed to the session particularly since it would be in Montreal and Bob Chapman was Canadian. The second session was proposed by Warren Wood and is titled, "Seismic Oceanography". Warren gave a brief overview of this topic explaining this involves making oceanographic measurements at low (seismic) frequencies using equipment typically used for seismic surveys. The TC had a brief discussion (mainly that the name should be changed) after Warren described the idea for the session. It was proposed that an expert give a mini tutorial at the session. The TC agreed that this would be a good special session for Montreal. Warren will organize and work on the title and description as well as finding speakers. Andone Lavery had previously proposed a Riverine Acoustics session but volunteered to move to a later meeting if the previous two are agreed upon for Montreal. So, this session was penciled in for San Francisco.
- The upcoming meetings were announced. The European Conference on Underwater Acoustics is July 2-6, 2012 in Edinburgh. It was announced that abstracts are due in December for contributed papers. Charles Holland pointed out that the deadline will be later than that if talks are part of a structured session. The web site is www.ecua2012.com and is expected to have information posted this week.
- Tony Lyons and Susan Blaeser representing the Standards Committee gave an update.
 - The Chair announced that Michael Ainslie has provided two new technical reports, "Standard for measurement and monitoring of underwater noise, Part 1: physical quantities and their units" and "Standard for measurement and monitoring of underwater noise, Part II: procedures for measuring underwater noise in connection with offshore wind farm licensing" (email Mike or me for links to these reports).
 - Tony and Susan indicated they need help from AO to serve on a Technical Advisory Group (TAG) for the effort to establish standards for underwater acoustics.
 - They reviewed the purpose and the countries involved as well as some of the issues that will be addressed.
- The Chair introduced Ravishankar Menon to the TC and announced him as the new AO student representative for the student council. James Traer was thanked for his service as the outgoing student representative. Ravishankar made some announcements:
 - Mentioned that the students find the meeting program very difficult to read and suggested looking into this and possibly having a web tool for the program.

- Also mentioned the TC introduction talks that will be given in Kansas City, which is similar to what was done in Seattle. He asked for anyone that wants to volunteer to please email him.
- The next issue discussed was a proposal by the ASA to offer a “Fall School” for graduate students. This was proposed at the Technical Council and the TC Chairs were asked to present and bring comments back to Technical Council.
 - The Fall School is conceptualized as an event where Masters and PhD Students in all areas of Acoustics as well as early career acousticians will learn about a variety of new accomplishments in Acoustics in two-day course (6 lectures per day).
 - The School will consist of classical lectures by prominent acousticians and roundtables and discussion groups to help clarify the lecture materials.
 - Would happen with different TC groups rotating. Could have school every 6 or 12 months.
 - The school would take place immediately prior to the ASA meeting (over the weekend). Students would also be expected to attend and present at the ASA meeting.
 - Would be at some cost to ASA to cover student and instructor hotel/meals.
- The TC generally expressed significant concern about this idea. Students in attendance made several comments that the funds could be better spent by helping students travel to ASA meetings.
- Other concerns were that the students will be busy with their own presentations the weekend before the meeting and that this would lengthen an already busy week and students would “burn-out”.
- There was concern that this did not have a clear purpose and also competes with the short courses.
- Voting took place and while there was some support, the majority did not support this idea.
- A technical initiative was proposed by Art Popper to create a web site having to do with the effects of noise on the aquatic environment. This proposal was sent to the Chair by email and Art Popper was not present at the meeting. The presentation indicated that Art Popper is requesting \$10,000/year over three years from the ASA. The web site would:
 - Contain the complete literature in PDF format
 - Literature full searchable and accessible
 - Non-copyright material downloadable
 - Links to ownership sites of copyright material
 - Constant update of literature – peer reviewed and “gray”
- The Chair presented the slides provided by Art Popper and a discussion followed.
 - Although people generally agreed that this would be a useful web site there was concern expressed by Peter Worcester and others that this would be a dangerous precedent for the ASA to set. Many other groups could make similar requests and it would be difficult to support all of these.

- Other comments were that this seemed expensive and perhaps the ASA could host the web site for less expense. However, there were other comments that having ASA host might give an implicit endorsement from the ASA.
- The Chair called for a vote on the proposal was taken and the majority did not support this request.
- The Chair then asked if people could check their membership status to see if they are members or associate members. During Technical Council the ASA requested TC Chairs ask this of their TC's. The ASA pointed out that there are many associate members and ASA is making an effort to get associates to change to members. After five years there is no difference in cost. It was pointed out that the ASA would post members at the social events to sign applications. The application form is provided in the program.
- The Chair then raised the issue of providing beverages at the TC meetings. The Chair indicated that the ASA is under contract with the hotels and cannot endorse bringing beverages in without using hotel services. The practice of doing this and having the chair reimbursed by the ASA would change in the very near future (probably right away).
- This was opened for discussion:
 - The overwhelming response from the TC was that beverages are an important part of the meeting and that the TC would prefer keeping this.
 - Ideas about hotel providing and ASA subsidizing were presented and there was slight support for that.
 - The idea of just doing something unofficial without ASA endorsement or reimbursement was also presented.
- These ideas on beverage options were noted and presented by the Chair to the Technical Council.
- The Chair then asked for members to send their names if they are interested in being on the Technical Committee for AO.
- The Chair then asked for the members to consider nominating a colleague for Fellow. The eligibility requirements for Fellow were then reviewed.
- The Chair asked for the members to think about nominating an early to mid career AO person for the Medwin Prize which will have a nomination deadline in September 2012.
- The meeting was officially adjourned but the chair.