

Acoustical Oceanography Minutes of the Meeting, Kansas City, Missouri

These are the minutes from the Acoustical Oceanography (AO) Technical Committee (TC) meeting from the 164th Acoustical Society of America (ASA) Meeting in Kansas City, Missouri October 22- 26, 2012. The TC meeting was held Tuesday October 23, 2012 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 John Colosi, the winner of the 2012 Medwin Prize in Acoustical Oceanography. The Medwin Prize in Acoustical Oceanography was established in the year 2000 by Herman and Eileen Medwin. The Medwin Prize was set up to recognize a person for the effective use of sound in the discovery and understanding of physical and biological parameters and processes in the sea. It was announced that John would present the Medwin Prize lecture, ““The problem of sound propagation through the fluctuation ocean and the interplay between ocean acoustics and physical oceanography” on Wednesday Oct. 24, 2012.
- Acoustical Oceanography had one special session in Kansas City honoring Clarence S. Clay.
 - The organizers from the Clay Special session were Dezhang Chu, Timothy K. Stanton, J. Mike Jech and John K. Horne. Tim Stanton reported at the meeting that the session was hugely successful and very well attended. The opening talk was given by Ivan Tolstoy (video presentation) and was an excellent tribute to Clarence Clay. Tim indicated that there were family members at the session and reception that followed.
- The TC thanked David Dowling for being the AO TC representative for the Kansas City meeting and doing a superb job. Dave was also the UW representative so took on a larger than usual workload. The sessions were well positioned with very few conflicts.
- Reminders were next given for the upcoming Montreal, Canada meeting. Rex Andrew was identified as the AO TPOM representative for Montreal (Feb. 15, 16). Notice of the abstract deadline was given. It was pointed out that unlike most ASA meetings a proceedings paper is due for the Montreal meeting as it is joint with the International Congress on Acoustics and the Canadian Acoustical Association. Payment for registration is due with papers on Jan. 22, 2013. The chair indicated that the proceedings were to be published in POMA. The chair reminded the TC of the two AO special sessions in Montreal: Estuarine Acoustics and Seismic Oceanography.
- Future meetings were announced for San Francisco, Providence and Indianapolis.
- Future meetings related to AO were announced. These are Underwater Acoustics Measurements 2013, which will be held on the Greek island of Corfu from 23-28 June, 2013. The Pacific Rim Underwater Acoustics Conference, held in Hangzhou, China from 9-11 October 2013. The Waveguide Invariant Workshop, which will take place in Moscow, Russia from 17-21 June, 2013. The TC was asked to approve having ASA cosponsor these meetings. There was overwhelming agreement to cosponsor and no objections.
- The next topic of discussion was a special event that was proposed for the Montreal meeting (as a side symposium). The event is to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Discovery of Sound in the Sea website (www.dosits.org). Some information was given to the TC including that this website was developed in 2002 by the University of Rhode Island’s Graduate School of

Oceanography (URI/GSO) in partnership with Marine Acoustics, Inc. (MAI). It was created to address need for increased public understanding of underwater sound. It has largely met this need: through September 2012, the DOSITS website has had more than 54 million hits. And, in 2007, the DOSITS team was awarded the ASA Science Writing Award for Media other than an Article. The TC was being asked to vote on the ASA cosponsoring the event and to propose a technical initiative for \$2000 to help defray the costs associated with the room rental. Jim Miller gave some additional comments as to the value of the website and mentioned the numerous AO people that have helped develop it over the last 10 years. It was suggested that the symposium might be in San Francisco but most of the comments made indicated that the international component of the Montreal meeting made it a better venue. The TC overwhelmingly approved both to cosponsor the event and to propose the technical initiative. The TC was also asked if the Montreal AO TC meeting could be combined with the UW TC meeting so that the usual meeting time of Tuesday 7:30-9:00 could be opened up for the DOSITS event. This was also approved overwhelmingly.

- The next topic was special sessions. The San Francisco special sessions were supposed to be finalized in Kansas City and Providence preliminary ideas proposed.
 - For San Francisco, two special sessions were discussed and then agreed upon. The first is, “Acoustics for Cabled Observatories” to be organized by Tom Dakin and Bruce Howe. The description is: Ocean cabled observatories are providing new challenges and opportunities for acoustics science, engineering and data management. This session seeks contributions in diverse areas including wind, rain, and wave measurements, ambient sound, ocean circulation and tomography, geodesy, physical and bio-imaging, hazard mitigation/early warning, navigation, positioning, timing, and communications, calibration, metadata, quality control, standards, data serving, archiving and speculative uses. A moderated discussion will be held on standardization issues with a goal to identify concrete steps for progress.
 - The second session proposed is, “Aquatic Ambient Sound” to be organized by Jennifer Miksis-Olds. The description is: This session invites papers describing the physical properties, trends, and use of ambient sound in the aquatic environment. Underwater environments include deep and shallow waters of marine and freshwater areas. This session will not address the impact of changing sound levels on aquatic organisms.
 - One other note: This ambient noise session was to also combine noise topics from Peter Gerstoft. The organizers and chair were unable to find sufficient agreement on the topic so a third special session was developed after the meeting. That has the title: “Utilizing ocean noise”. The organizer is Peter Gerstoft. The description is: This session covers extraction of environmental information from noise. This can be performed by the transformation of ocean noise into usable signals or by inversion of noise signals to obtain ocean environmental parameters.
 - Initial ideas for the Providence meeting only included the named special session honoring Bill Carey who passed away recently. It was agreed that this session would likely be led by Signal Processing but AO would cosponsor.

- Next, the education in acoustics web information for graduate schools offering acoustics curriculum was circulated. The TC members could correct any omissions to the list.
- Next an announcement asking for volunteers for the Women in Acoustics demonstrations was given.
- A volunteer was needed to attend the Society Lunch and accompany a student. Nick Chotiros volunteered to do this.
- Next, the TC was asked to respond to a number of questions from the ASA.
 - The ASA requested feedback on the Acoustics School. AO did not participate in this school so there were no comments.
 - The chair then asked for feedback on ScholarOne MyIntinerary, the new mobile application allows users to carry the meeting program and plan their schedule on their mobile device. The feedback was overwhelmingly positive. Approximately $\frac{1}{4}$ of the TC in attendance (about 25 out of 100) had used the application for the Kansas City meeting. Comments were that the Android phone did not work well with the app. Also, the schedule did not properly load on calendars. But, show of hands indicated all who had experienced the app were satisfied and liked it.
 - The next question was on whether members like Acoustics Today. Nearly the entire TC in attendance indicated they like and want to continue Acoustics Today. Next, the members were asked whether or not it could be delivered electronically. About half the attendees thought this would be fine. But, many indicated it was better to have the print copy. So, basically split on electronic vs print. Some members indicated a Kindle type electronic version would be useful.
 - Next, the members were asked about whether Echoes was valuable. About half the members indicated they liked it. No strong opposition to having it but not as much support as for Acoustics Today. When asked about electronic versions there was much more support for Echoes to be emailed to members (or links).
 - The members were then asked to comment about an option to have a thumb drive with archives of JASA from 1929-2009. There was almost no support for this at the price of \$150 (only 2 indicated they would purchase). But, it was suggested if the price were more like \$50 then the support was much better.
 - Next, the student representative, Ravi Menon gave student council announcements. He indicated the AO position for a student representative would open up in the Spring. He also announced the student council mentor award. And, gave an update on student events in Kansas City.
 - The Chair then reminded the audience how they can join the TC and what the responsibilities are.
- The meeting was officially adjourned but the chair.