

These are the minutes from the Acoustical Oceanography (AO) Technical Committee (TC) meeting at the 169<sup>th</sup> Acoustical Society of America (ASA) meeting in Indianapolis, IN. The TC meeting was held on Tuesday 19 May 2015 from 7:30 pm to 8:45 pm and was chaired by Andone Lavery. There were 35 attendees.

Various announcements were made: 1) Bruce Howe, technical chair for the 172nd ASA Meeting in Hawaii, 28 November – 2 December 2016, reminded the TC that proposed special sessions for the Hawaii meeting should be completed at the Pittsburgh meeting and that a co-chair from the Acoustical Society for Japan must be identified, 2) David Bradley informed the TC that it was anticipated that the Pittsburgh special session on *Historical Perspectives on the Origins of Underwater Acoustics* will most likely result in a book and that a Technical Initiative would be forthcoming at the Jacksonville meeting, 3) Scott Loranger acted as interim AO student council representative as the current student representative has stepped down, and the TC was reminded of a number of student events at the ASA meeting in Pittsburgh, and 4) Chris Feuillade asked the TC members to please exhibit their ASA “Fellow” ribbon on their name tag so that they can be easily identified and approached by younger members of the TC.

The TC thanked: 1) David Knobles for serving as the first “remote” TPOM representative for Pittsburgh, and 2) Peter Gerstoff for standing in for Tim Stanton as the AO representative on the ASA Membership Committee. David Knobles informed the TC that the remote TPOM was quite efficient and effective but that it was important to have a strong TPOM coordinator, like Jennifer Miksis-Olds leading the remote meeting. The TC congratulated Karim Sabra for receiving the 2015 Medwin Prize and the chair reminded the TC that Karim Sabra would be presenting a plenary session entitled “Monitoring deep ocean temperatures using low-frequency ambient noise” on Wednesday, 20 May, at 1:00 p.m. in Kings1.

The chair informed the TC that there were insufficient student papers to independently run the AO student paper award. Instead, the AO student papers have been combined with the UW student papers for the Pittsburgh meeting, and no AO student papers awards will be given in Pittsburgh. The AO student papers were also combined with the UW student papers in Indianapolis and no AO student paper awards were given there. Some discussion ensued regarding the reason for low student numbers and it was agreed that a good guideline to follow was that there should be at least 5 student papers in order to run the student paper award. If fewer student papers were received then the AO student papers should be combined with the UW student papers. The chair requested a volunteer for the “Take-a-student-to-the-fellows-luncheon”, but no members volunteered.

The chair briefly summarized the Pittsburgh AO special session on *Acoustics of Fine Grained Sediments: Theory and Measurement*, organized by David Knobles, Mohsen Badiy, and Charles Holland that was held on Tuesday afternoon. This session was very well attended, 30-40 participants throughout the session, with two student papers, and was generally considered to be very informative and successful.

The chair reminded the TC that there were two AO special sessions at the upcoming 179th ASA Meeting in Jacksonville, Florida (2-6 November 2015), entitled *Acoustic Remote Sensing in High Latitudes*, organized by John Colosi and Aaron Thode, and *Passive Acoustic Tomography*, organized by Karim Sabra

and Kathleen Wage, co-sponsored by TC Underwater Acoustics (UW). The chair also announced the UW special session for the Jacksonville meeting, co-sponsored by AO, entitled *50 Years of Underwater Acoustics under ASA*, organized by DJ Tang.

The next topic was special sessions for the 171<sup>th</sup> Meeting in Salt Lake City, Utah, from 23-27 May 2016. A previously proposed special session on *Acoustic Constraints of Ocean Models* was discussed, to be organized by Tim Duda, and possibly Brian Dushaw and Bruce Cornuelle. A second special session on *Acoustical Ecology* was proposed by David Barclay, though Jennifer Miksis-Olds recommended that the Animal Bioacoustics TC be approached before finalizing this special session. Discussion ensued on the meaning Acoustical Ecology versus Ecosystem Acoustics. It was agreed that a more detailed proposal should be converged upon, possibly including predator-prey interactions. In the context of this discussion, the chair informed the TC that the Technical Council had met on Monday evening over dinner and that one of the discussion topics was how to make the “joint” special sessions more joint, for example by listing special sessions under all the co-sponsoring TCs, or listing them as interdisciplinary and having co-chairs from each co-sponsoring TC.

Special sessions for the 172<sup>nd</sup> ASA Meeting in Honolulu, Hawaii, 28 November -2 December 2016, were discussed. A special session entitled *25 years of Acoustical Oceanography at ASA*, organized by And one Lavery and Mike Buckingham was agreed on. A special session on *Using Acoustics to Study Fish Distribution and Behavior Revisited* had been previously proposed for Hawaii, to be organized by Tim Stanton and Kelly Benoit-Bird, following up on the special session with a similar title that took place in Providence. Bruce Howe suggested a special session on “Underwater GPS” and quite some discussion ensued. However, the general consensus was that this session was premature and should be delayed to a future meeting.

During the special session discussion, the chair suggested that it might be useful to have slightly more formal guidelines regarding the organization of special sessions. These guidelines might include an optimal number of special sessions per meeting and the order of priority to be followed in the case of overlapping special sessions. For example, the first priority might be to not have overlapping AO sessions, second priority not to have overlapping AO special sessions and sessions co-sponsored by AO, third priority to have Tuesday sessions, fourth priority not to have overlapping AO sessions and UW special sessions, next priority not to have overlapping AO sessions and UW contributed sessions, next priority not to have overlapping AO sessions and AB or SP special sessions, etc. Some discussion ensued.

The chair asked if there were any additional announcements or comments. None were made. The meeting was officially adjourned by the chair at 8:45 pm.