

Robotics and Automation Council
Council Minutes: 4/7/86

MINUTES

IEEE ROBOTICS AND AUTOMATION COUNCIL ADCOM MEETING

APRIL 7, 1986 - SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

(Acting secretary - Klafter)

1. Roll call and welcome by Paul - 1:18 PM

2. Agenda was adopted. (Motion by Jarvis, seconded by Luh). - Approved.

3. Minutes of 12/10/86 council meeting was approved without ammendment. (Luh, DeFigueredo)

4. REPORTS:

4.1 President's Report (Paul) - TAB meeting report; letter from Boston section asking for RAC to become a society (letter was from Michael Whitelaw, Director, Region 1) - letter should be part of minutes.

4.2 Treasurer's Report (Klafter) - proper crediting of subscription fees to RAC is now being taken care of by headquarters and an up-to-date accounting is in the works. Approximate RAC surplus is \$71.1K as of 12/31/85. - see attached report.

4.3 Journal Editor (Bekey) -

o Vol. 2 #1 (March) is 2 weeks behind. It will be about 60-65 pages. Vol. 2 #2 (June) is on time (60-65 pgs). Vol.2 #3 (Sept.) is on time (80-85 pgs).

o Discussion followed on whether we should remain quarterly for next year with an increased number of pages per issue (e.g., 20 more pages) or go to a bi-monthly format. The latter seemed to be favored.

o There is a monotonically increasing number of papers being submitted to the Journal. 51 papers currently submitted (total for 1985 was 82).

4.4 1986 Conference (Bejczy)

o 580 pre-registration (564 for conference; 16 for tutorials only;) - Tutorial 1 (46); Tutorial 2 (61); Workshop (84)

o there are 72 students registered (a 40% increase from the last conference).

o Budget and numbers are in good shape.

o Proceeding are in three volumes, one for each day and total

twice the number that we had last year. (Proceedings are well printed. Our thanks to the Computer Society).

- o Papers are, for the most part, of very good quality.

- o Many new people are attending with many new institutions from here and abroad. (70 international attendees).

- o 90% of the papers are of the research type.

- o 60 automation papers (15 last year); 280 robotics papers.

- o Discussion followed on the size of the proceedings.

Suggestions: (1) 2 page abstracts rather than full paper be printed; (2) Have long and short papers.

- o Council is invited to dinner by conference organizers.

4.5 1987 Conference (Sanderson)

- o 14 people have agreed to serve on program committee.

- o Publicity - Harry Hayman

- o Call for papers - is out and available at 86 conference.

- o General mailing in a few weeks (over 12000 announcements will go out).

- o Tutorials and workshops will be on 3/30 with the sessions being held 3/31 - 4/2.

- o Jarvis suggested that we coordinate with the SME Robots Conference and Exposition so as to attract the largest foreign contingent.

- o Snyder talked about room layout. There will be eight parallel sessions. There was a suggestion that the workshops be held on Friday so as not to conflict with the tutorials (on Monday).

- o Hayman indicated that many people wish to attend both and that tutorials and workshops are *profit centers*. Sense of the council was to go with a Monday - Friday schedule.

- o Snyder suggested that educational exhibits be permitted. We have the space anyway (there is an extra cost for Wed. and Thurs. but we will charge the exhibitors to take care of this). Discussion followed and the topic was moved to *New Business*

- o Spouses program is being developed - there is no financial risk to the council for this item.

4.6 Meetings (Favlidis) - report postponed.

4.7 Publications (Kellay) - just on board: no report.

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4.8 Newsletter (Snyder) - deferred

4.9 Standards (Haynes) - did not attend.

4.10 Education (Desrochers) - report given above on tutorials.

5. ACTION ITEMS

5.1 1988 Conference (Pavlidis)

o Motion (Pavlidis, Jarvis) to accept Bob Kelley as Conference Program Chairman. Approved.

o We have proposals from two cities - Ann Arbor and Philadelphia. Motion (Pavlidis, Klafter) for Philadelphia. Carried.

o Discussion centered around geographical location of conference and initial intent of moving it to different locations around the country. However, we should take into consideration the large concentrations of potential attendees in the East and Far West. Also, we need active and enthusiastic workers to hold a conference in a particular location.

o Proposals for the 1989 conference site are now being solicited. We would like it to be in the Mid-West.

o There was a discussion on the proceedings, number of papers, and overall size. Some felt that a two page limit was good. However, some felt that three volumes was good.

o There was also a discussion about what could be done to improve the quality of the presentation. We do not want someone to show a few pages from the paper or his thesis but rather to specially prepare clear and concise overheads or slides. It was mentioned that SME requires that session chairman review the slides beforehand.

*****Harry arrived and took over the job of taking minutes.*****

Respectively submitted:

Dick Klafter
DICK KLAFTER, TREASURER.

ACTION ITEMS (continued)

5.2 Newsletter

There was some discussion about the potential role of a newsletter, including tutorial papers, announcements of future events, synopsis of past events. Paul asked Snyder to put together a proposal for a newsletter.

5.3 Subscription fee

The consensus was that there is no need to increase the subscription fee.

5.4 Expenses for Vice President to attend final TAB meeting

The Adcom approved a motion (by Kelley, second by Luh) that the council reimburse the travel expenses for the vice president to attend the final TAB meeting of the year, if the vice president's organization will not support the travel expenses.

5.5 Co-sponsorship of Industrial Electronics Society Meetings

The Adcom approved a motion (by Bekey, second by Bejczy) to cooperate with the Industrial Electronics Society in IECON 87 and the following four workshops:

- 1 International Workshop on Industrial Applications of Machine Vision and Machine Intelligence, Feb. 2-4, 1987, Tokyo.
- 2 International Workshop on Industrial Automation Systems, Feb. 4-6, 1987, Tokyo.
- 3 Workshop on Factory Communications, March 1987, Michigan.
- 4 International Workshop on Artificial Intelligence for Industrial Applications, 1988, Hitachi, Japan.

6. DISCUSSION ITEMS

6.1 Council reserves

It was decided to leave the council reserves in T-bills.

6.2 Transition to Society

There was some discussion about a possible transition of the council to a Society. The overall sense of the adcom was that we are moving in that direction. It was felt that such a transition would help reinforce IEEE's position in the areas of robotics and automation. It was also suggested that the society representatives solicit the advice of their presidents on this matter.

7. NEW BUSINESS

The adcom approved a motion (by Snyder, second by deFigueiredo) to allow educational exhibits at the next conference.

8. NEXT MEETING

The next Adcom meeting will be held on Monday, September 29, at 1:00pm, in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, in conjunction with IECON 86 (motion by Abramovich, second by deFigueiredo).

9. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:10 pm.

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August 1986

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Book

IEEE ROBOTICS AND AUTOMATION COUNCIL
ADCOM MEETING, APRIL 7, 1986
ATTENDANCE

The following members and guests were in attendance :

R.P. Paul, President
G.N. Saridis, Founding President
J.F. Jarvis, Immediate Past President, and
Chairman, Nominations Committee
A.K. Bejczy, Vice President
H.E. Stephanou, Secretary
R.D. Klafter, Treasurer
G.A. Bekey, Editor of Journal
T. Pavlidis, Chairman, Meetings Committee
R.B. Kelley, Chairman, Publications Committee
Y.C. Ho, 1987 Conference General Chairman
A.C. Sanderson, 1987 Conference Program Chairman
A.A. Desrochers, Chairman, Education Committee
W.E. Snyder, Newsletter Editor
J.Y. Luh, Control Systems Society
A.J. Koivo, Control Systems Society
R.J.P. de Figueiredo, Circuits & Systems Society
A. Abramovich, Industrial Electronics Society
T.O. Binford, Systems, Man, and Cybernetics Society
J.C. Lin, Engineering in Medicine and Biology Society
H. Hayman, Conference Treasurer