

AdCom Meeting
May 20, 2006 – Orlando

**RAS Award and Fellow
Nomination Committee Report**

Paolo Dario and Katsushi Ikeuchi

OUTLINE

- 1. Current situation on Awards: bylaws and standing rules**
2. Limitations encountered
3. Proposal for a new selection procedure
4. New Harashima Award (Motion)

RAS Bylaws

- **ARTICLE IX — STANDING COMMITTEES**

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- **Section 3. Awards and Fellow Nominations Committee.** This Committee shall be chaired by the Senior Past-President, and shall be responsible for recommending various forms of recognition for noteworthy contributions to the Field of Interest of the Society. It shall see that deserving members are nominated for the IEEE membership grade of Fellow.

RAS Standing Rules on Nominations and Awards (AdCom approved 2003)

Part 2. Standing Rules on Awards

- The RAS Awards that may be given annually are the following:
 - **Pioneer Award**
 - **Industrial Early Career Award**
 - **Academic Early Career Award**
 - **Distinguished Service Award** (up to three)
 - **Chapter of the Year**
 - **Most Active Technical Committee** (voted directly by all TC Chairs)
 - **IEEE RAS Technical Field Award**. This Award is assigned directly by the IEEE.

RAS Awards Standing Committee (2006-7)

- **Chair: Paolo Dario**
- VP for TA: Ken Goldberg
- VP for MA: Antonio Bicchi
- K. Ikeuchi (member appointed by the President)
- 1 additional member could still be appointed by the President

RAS Standing Rules on Nominations and Awards (AdCom approved 2003)

Part 2. Standing Rules on Awards

- By February 1st each year, a Call For Awards will be issued to AdCom members, and also posted at the RAS website.



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IEEE Robotics and Automation Society

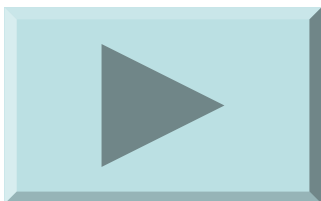
Awards

	<p>Paolo Dario 2006-7 RAS Fellow and Awards Committee Chair Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna ARTS Lab E-mail: dario [at] arts.sssup.it</p>		<p>Katsu Ikeuchi 2006-7 RAS Fellow and Awards Committee Co-Chair University of Tokyo Computer Vision Lab E-mail: ki [at] IIS.U-TOKYO.AC.JP</p>
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Deadline for nominations for Society Awards: March 15

Deadline for IEEE Fellow Nominations: March 1

The Robotics and Automation Society has established several awards to honor those members who have made outstanding contributions to the field of Robotics and Automation and to the Society. With the exception of the RAS Chapter of the Year and the Best Technical Committee award, awards are presented to individuals to recognize both career long achievements or outstanding contributions published in the *IEEE Transactions on Robotics and Automation* or at the IEEE International Conference on Robotics and Automation.



Click for the web site

RAS Standing Rules on Nominations and Awards (AdCom approved 2003)

Part 2. Standing Rules on Awards

- The Awards and Fellow Evaluation Standing Committee will organize Award Technical Sub-committees, one for each Award.
- Only Fellows may participate in discussion of Fellow nominees.
- **Technical Award Sub-committees will set up their own internal procedures** to proactively stimulate qualified nominations.

RAS Awards Technical Sub-Committees (2006-7)

- Creation of two separate sub-committees, one for soliciting nominations (Search Committee) and one for evaluating nominations (Evaluation Committee)

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Limitations/Possible improvements

- Change the name of the committee to “Awards Committee”.
- Reinforce the guidelines to guarantee the same format for all awards nominations (e.g. the same used for IEEE Fellows)
- To keep memory of nominations for the following years
- To render the composition of the Award sub-committees more stable in order to guarantee uniform evaluation of nominations through the years
- To better organize the procedure for preparation of the plaques and checks
- To clarify if the Awards should be given only to RAS members

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Selection procedure: a proposal

Nobel-like Procedure

Tracking all nominations in a RAS Database and establishing guidelines to select a winner after a minimum of XXX years of continuous nomination. Exceptionally a winner can be awarded at the first nomination provided that the relevant sub-committee and the Award Committee reach a unanimous consensus

Open issues TBD:

- Length of XXX? Proposal: at least 2/3 years
- Who has to maintain the nomination Database?
Proposal: RAS Secretary
- Other?

Selection procedure: a proposal

Appointment of Awards sub-Committee members

In order to guarantee the proper application of this proposed Nobel-like procedure:

- *Members of the Awards sub-committees shall be appointed for three years*
- *Like AdCom members, each year only 33% of the members of each sub-committee shall be replaced by new members to guarantee continuity as well as rotation of membership*
- *RAS Members of the Awards sub-Committee shall be selected among senior RAS members, preferably past-officers, previous awards recipients, etc.*

Final remarks on updating procedures

1. Inputs to Constitution & Bylaws Committee:

*(Volz, Orin) Changing the name in Article IX, Section 3 of the Bylaws to “Awards Committee” and to revise the final paragraph as follows: “It shall see that deserving members are nominated for the IEEE membership grade of Fellow, **and will be responsible for organizing the Fellow Evaluation Committee for the Society.**”*

2. *All other suggestions could be informally implemented within the Awards Committee and its sub-committees without additional overhead in terms of modifications to Bylaws and Standing Rules on Awards*

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Proposal for the IROS Harashima award for Innovative Technologies



Purpose

- To honor Professor Fumio Harashima, the founding chair of the IROS conferences for his great contributions to the IROS community.
- To recognize an individual who has pioneered activities in robotics and intelligence.

Prize and Cost

➤ Prize: US \$ 4,000 + Plaque

- \$2000 from IEEE societies (RAS & IES)
- \$2000 from non-IEEE societies (RSJ & SICE)

➤ Cost:

- The cost will be covered by surplus funds
- In case the surplus is smaller,
 - no award is given.
 - The candidate will be awarded at the next earliest conference to have surplus more than \$4000

Motion

- To support and co-sponsor the HARASHIMA Award together with IES, RSJ and SICE with a RAS contribution of 1000 USD per year. This contribution shall be covered from the surplus originated for RAS by the IROS Conference of the same year.