



Constitution & Bylaws Committee Meeting

Lausanne, October 3, 2002

08:00 – 10:00

Meeting Room: AA:B032



Composition



- Paolo Dario, Chair
- George Bekey
- Steve Hsia
- Ron Arkin
- Alicia Casals

Non-voting members

- Tony Maciejewski
- Eugenio Guglielmelli
- All interested AdCom members are welcome



Motivations: Some Possible Issues suggested by the 'Caucus' in May



- What is our Constitutional Charter?
- Who are the voting members?
- What are the responsibilities of the elected members?
- Is decision making being done correctly?
 - Does the power structure reflect the Constitution?
 - Is there proper adherence to rules of order for motions and elections?
- Is the main meeting structure for debate and discussion OK?
- Do we have appropriate composition in governance with respect to membership (new people, diversity, term limits)?
- What are the Society's Priorities, present and future? (members? money?)
- Others?



Objectives of the meeting



- To agree on the goals to be achieved by the C&B Committee by 2003
- To define a working methodology
- To identify major activities to be performed
- To assign specific tasks to each Committee member
- To define a plan of action



Goals (2002-2003)



- Review RAS Constitution & Bylaws in order to:
 - Render them more consistent with the current level of development of the Society
 - Modify (or formalize) some established societal management customs ('oral' standing rules) so as to increase clarity and transparency as appropriate
 - Improve definition of role, composition, duties and privileges of the ExCom and of the AdCom
 - Make minor formal revisions throughout the text
- Have the new RAS C&B approved by the AdCom and start the formal procedure for approval by IEEE bodies (if needed)



Working Methodology

1. Problem definition: Identification of the main issues to be addressed for revision (today)
2. Assignment of a set of issues to each member of the C&B Committee (October 2002)
3. Analysis of problems and definition of tentative solutions, also by consultation with other AdCom members, RAS officers and RAS members (December 2002)



Working Methodology

4. Approval by C&B Committee of solutions to be proposed (February 2003)
5. The proposals should be e-mailed to all AdCom members
6. Presentation of the amendments to the AdCom for discussion (Spring AdCom 2003)
7. Detailed formulation of the amendments to RAS C&B (exact wording) (June 2003)
8. Formal amendments should be e-mailed to all AdCom members (September 2003)
9. AdCom approval (Fall AdCom 2003)
10. Start-up and completion of the formal procedure for approval of the new RAS C&B by IEEE bodies (if needed)



Procedure for amending RAS Constitution



- Minimum 30 days advance notice to the AdCom
- 2/3 affirmative vote of the AdCom
- Approval of IEEE TAB and ExCom
- Publication on TRA or RAM
- 60-days window for objection by at least 5% of Society members
- If there is objection ballot to the entire Society
- Process duration: 4-6 months



Procedure for amending RAS Bylaws



- Minimum 30 days advance notice to the AdCom
- Summary of amendments published on RAM
- 2/3 affirmative vote of the AdCom
- Publication on RAM
- Process duration: 2-3 months



Assignment of issues Committee members



- George Bekey/Ron Arkin
 - Nomination/Awards
 - Voting privileges and procedures
 - Outside members (students, industry, junior)

- Steve Hsia/Alicia Casals
 - AdCom/Standing Committees
 - Standing Committees (Charters)
 - Reporting structure and organization (including information flow)

- Dario/Maciejeswki/Guglielmelli
 - Integration and harmonization of the new text