

**Minutes from the Meeting of the
Audio Engineering Society Technical Committee on Acoustics and Sound Reinforcement
Audio Engineering Society 121st Conference**

Thursday October 5th, 2006, 1:30 PM San Francisco Expo, Moscone Center San Francisco

Attending:

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The meeting began with a reading of the meeting minutes from the Paris conference of May 22, 2006. Following the reading of the minutes the meeting was opened up to the group for discussion.

Bruce Olson mentioned that he was looking into updating our TC site on the server, setting it up as an automated list serv, tc-asr@aes.org.

From the Paris meeting notes of particular concern were the issues of TC relevance, the issue of diminished growth in the face of competition from other TCs, and consideration of the brief that the TCASR should be working from; that is, what is it that we do, and is it still of value?

The two directions which were discussed were the somewhat diametrically opposed aspects of serving to provide workshops or paper sessions on “cutting edge” or “hot” current technologies that have applications in our work, while simultaneously serving an educational need by providing tutorials and/or workshops that provide a solid foundation in the basics of our committee’s area of focus, acoustics and sound reinforcement.

There were a number of students from the Michigan State AES student chapter at the meeting and they were asked about their involvement with AES and their interest in the TC. Their primary interest was in the tutorial aspect of the Society, and the potential to get funding/support from the National AES to allow them to bring into campus tutorial presentations.

Concerns were expressed that to-date, there hasn’t been a significant enough linkage for the Society between the European and American paper sessions, workshops, and/or tutorials.

Important presentations that could create a commonality of experience and knowledge sharing are being limited to one side of the Atlantic or the other. There was agreement among those present that the proposed linkage between US and European presentations made a lot of sense, and it would be useful if the potential alternate presenters were included in the planning for the initial presentation. By this it was meant that if a workshop/tutorial were going to be presented first at the European session, consideration would be given at the start of planning as to who might give the workshop/tutorial at the US session. Of course it may simply be the same presenters, but it was felt that ideally there would be some new faces involved at the transatlantic transfer of the presentation, both to give it a local connection and to give it some additional ideas/perspective.

The educational topics/curriculum, which the TC has discussed in previous meetings, met with enthusiasm and strong agreement that an on-going curriculum, with an established timeframe for repetition of the curriculum sequence would be of value.

To the original list of seven topics that were proposed in Paris the following items were added (with the original seven topics being first in the listing which follows):

1. Acoustics of Small Rooms
2. Acoustics of Large Rooms
3. Speech Intelligibility, Characterization and Measurement
4. Sound Reinforcement in the Environment
5. Sound Reinforcement for the right venue
6. "Ten Basic Things to get Right in Sound Reinforcement"
7. Acoustical Materials, Sound Absorption, and Scattering
8. Measurement of Materials
9. Live Sound & Acoustics of Rooms
10. Modeling in 2007, Uses and Misuses
11. Sound Isolation and Noise Control

The discussion moved onto potential tutorials/workshops for Vienna in May of 2007 and for New York in the fall of 2007.

It was noted that the TCASR or its members were involved in four events at the current San Francisco Convention; *Symposium - Surround Live IV* (Ampel/Graffy), *Live Sound Seminars - Reverberation Enhancement* (Graffy), *Workshops- Why the Impulse Response Affects Everything We Hear* (Mapp/Fiestel), *Tutorials-Large Room Acoustics* (Graffy).

However there wasn't enough mention made of the TCASR linkage during the presentations. It was suggested that mention be made during the introductions that the presenter(s) were part of TCASR, partly to acknowledge our involvement in support of the Society, and also to create potential interest in the TC by attendees at the various presentations.

The potential tutorials/workshops would be identified as being TCASR sponsored or affiliated sessions.

The following potential presentations for Vienna and New York were discussed:

- Ron Sauro discussed the recent measurements of absorptive materials made in his measurement facility, and finding interesting relationships of sample area to results, as well as the relationship of sample perimeter to results, and offered to present this as a tutorial or workshop. It was felt however, that this topic, if of interest, would be best

served as a paper presented in a papers session, which could, if interest and numbers of potential presenters worked out, eventually lead to a special papers session on “Acoustic Measurements of Materials and Ramifications Thereof”.

- Fred Ampel and Robin Caine proposed a workshop on Source Oriented Systems, with a proposed title of “Spatial Localization of Sound Sources in a Performance Environment”. This workshop would be presented in the spring in Vienna and again in the fall in New York City.
- Peter Mapp proposed that the session to be given in San Francisco on Impulse Response be repeated in Vienna.
- Peter Mapp and Kurt Graffy offered to co-present a workshop/tutorial session for NYC on “Top Ten Basic Things on Sound Reinforcement”. By co-present it was meant that Peter would be willing to be part of the European session, but felt he needed at least two other presenters as well. If this was given in Vienna it would be proposed for NYC as well.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30PM.

Respectfully submitted

Kurt Graffy
Chair US AES TC Acoustics and Sound Reinforcement