Technical Committee on Audio Forensics

137th Convention, LA, 2014

TC-AF Meeting Minutes
Present: Jeff M. Smith, Dan Rappaport, Eddy B. Brixen, Durand Begault, Christoph Musialik, Gordon Reid, Rob Maher, Keith McElveen

• Maher remarked that AES Journal has seen a decline in paper submission
  o Encourage forensics papers
  o Also a change in policy where conference papers can be submitted as is to the journal
    ▪ Encourage authors from AES 46 Denver and AES 54 London to submit conference papers to the journal
• TC-AF website needs to be updated:
  o Berlin blurb
  o LA blurb
• Technical Counsel requested a Heyser memorial lecturer from Audio Forensics
  o Watergate: Jay McKnight (Begualt make contact?)
  o Koenig as speaker or to refer speaker ideas
  o Hiro Nakasone of FBI?
• Emerging Trends document
  o 500-1000 words to Technical Council by end of October
  o Possible areas:
    ▪ Probabilistic methods, Bayesian likelihood
    ▪ ASR + enhancement
    ▪ Study of musicology seeing more research and publication
    ▪ Growing interest in the field with growing attendance at conferences and NCMF students
    ▪ Analog gone
    ▪ Compression, mobility of a/v recording (tasers with video)
    ▪ Proliferation of compression has led to a need to redesign algorithms
    ▪ Widely available software capability in spectral editing
    ▪ Speech recognition continues to have forensic application and collaboration with speaker recognition
      ▪ Data mining, “jisting”
• AES 54th Conference London, June 14-16 2014
  o AES Conference Report on AES website and journal
    ▪ Thanks Rob Maher for write-up
  o Smith made Conference report made to Conference Policy Committee. Conference was held unanimously as a success.
Attendance (74 ppl all in) went down from Denver but was up from 2010 Denmark.

Paper submission for conference was low compared to Denver and Denmark. Regardless, with 4 outstanding workshops and Keynote, the program was very regarded as a success.

Discussion for any additions to the London conference to be considered in future conferences
  ■ Keith suggested academic exhibitors with demonstrations

• AES xxth Washington DC
  o Probably June 23-25, 2016
  o Possibly AES 65th
  o Smith made report on 2016 conference to the Conference Policy Committee meeting
    ■ CPC requested full proposal be made in 2-3 weeks in advance of Warsaw convention (May 7-10 2015) to be presented there
    ■ Smith (Conference Treasurer) and Rappaport (Conference Chair) to continue work on hotel contract, budget, and Warsaw update/proposal
  o Strategy for increasing paper submissions
    ■ Begault noted that it will and should fall on the Papers Chair (to be named) to encourage submission from the community
    ■ Suggested earlier Call for Papers (late summer 2015) to include
      • Request for abstract and précis with more specific information about what précis should include
      • Also request and criteria for posters, e-briefs
    ■ Paper submission site to allow for author to select one or more of the following: paper, poster, e-brief
    ■ Begault accepted to be one of three papers co-chairs; other two would be a person in DC area and person in Europe
      • Doug Lacy was suggested for DC Area Papers co-chair
  o Gov't agencies in the area as Exhibitors or to present on lab configuration
    ■ FBI, NTSB, Libr. Of Congress or other restoration/archive
  o An idea was generated to create a technical track to coincide with a scientific research track.
    ■ This was generated following McElveen’s suggestion for additional focus on tactical audio/surveillance recording and much discussion regarding the high number of technicians/analysts in the DC area as well as consistent comments from conferences delegates for more technical and applicable content at conferences
    ■ Possible format could be 1 day general session followed by 2 days with two separate tracks
      • 1) application specific: authentication, tactical, enhancement
      • 2) research specific: academic papers
• McElveen suggested partnering with NATIA regional section for which the conference application track would be NATIA’s regional meeting.
• AES xxth Europe, 2018
  o Locations?
    ▪ Portu, Portugal.
    ▪ Sligo, Ireland.
    ▪ ?
• 138th Convention, Warsaw, May 7-10 2015
  o CPC Proposal for DC Conference
  o Submit workshop/tutorial ideas before New Year
    ▪ Natanya Ford coordinating workshops so proposals should go to her
  o Coordination of Workshops/Tutorials
    ▪ Contact Bitzer of Fraunhofer IDMT for contribution
    ▪ Contact Bozena Kostek for Warsaw persons interested in Forensics
    ▪ Brixen to email Europeans about conference requesting participation, contribution, attendance
• 139th Convention, NY, Oct. 29-Nov 1 2015
  o Workshop/Tutorial proposals
    ▪ Repeat LA workshop
      • Same presenters, same topics, may update presentation as presenter chooses
  o Technical Council has requested a Heyser Lecturer from AF