

# **AES Technical Committee on Acoustics and Sound Reinforcement**

## **Minutes form Technical Committee meeting – AES Dublin 2019**

**Thursday, 21 March 2019, 10 - 11am, Wicklow Meeting Room 4**

### **Attendance:**

Adam Hill (chair) – AH, Elena Shabalina – ES, Eddy Brixen – EB, Ben Kok – BK, Etienne Corteel – EC, Robert Lee – RL, François Montignies – FM, Boris Rehders – BR, Ugis Vilcans - UV

### **Apologies:**

Kurt Graffy (chair) – KG, Peter Mapp – PM, Marcel Kok, Christian Frick, Neil Shaw

#### 1. Proposed actions from AES 145 New York minutes.

- Minutes from AES NY were reviewed, focusing on actions arising.
- AH noted that the TC has supported two sessions at the Dublin convention, which although one short of the target, was still encouraging. There was to be a third session run by EB, but this had to be cancelled due to lack of panel members.
- EB noted that he is planning to present a paper on sound system shoot-outs in New York. EC and FM offered to take part, if EB decides to attempt to run the workshop again. Members present supported the idea of a workshop instead of a paper session.
- A brief discussion was held on KG's suggestion of creating a "library" of TC presentations, to make it easier to meet our 2-3 sessions per convention goal. The general feeling at the meeting was that the European side of the TC was almost entirely contributing to the sessions. Without strong involvement from the US side, this sort of library would be difficult to deliver with the appropriate expertise on both sides.
- **Action (EB):** Decide whether to do a paper or workshop on sound system shoot-outs for New York. If a workshop is appropriate, then contact EC + FM and other TC members to participate.

- **Action (KG):** Consider how to increase TC participation from US members, specifically in the form of delivering tutorials and workshops.

## 2. AES 146 Dublin – sessions supported by TC-ASR

- AH thanked FM, EC and ES for contributing to sessions at this convention.
- AH encouraged TC members to attend FM's session on line source behaviour on Saturday at 10:45 and stick around for the workshop on noise exposure and pollution due to outdoor events at 12:30.
- AH also thanked EB for attempting to run a session on sound system shoot-outs. It is hoped that this will run at future conventions.

## 3. AES 147 New York (October 2019)

- RL suggested that the TC should consider supporting a tutorial/workshop on networked audio for sound reinforcement, with participation from both practitioners and manufacturers. AH said he would see if anyone from his network would be suitable and willing to participate.
- AH suggested that the workshop delivered by the TC's working group on noise exposure and pollution could be repeated in New York.
- AH relayed two proposals from PM for New York, one on acoustic measurements for sound engineers and one on psychoacoustics for sound engineers. Members present liked both ideas, but said that the acoustics measurement proposal would be best for New York.
- EC suggested a session on effective use of simulations on site for tuning sound systems. ES and BR offered to contribute to this session. AH felt it would be useful to have input from multiple members of industry to get multiple perspectives. This could be run as a workshop, inviting PM to contribute as well.
- **Action (AH):** Determine working group availability to run a workshop on the group's progress in New York.
- **Action (AH):** Make contact with Live Sound session track chair, Henry Cohen, to discuss TC's proposals for sessions. Aim is to get TC-sponsored sessions on the Live Sound track.

- **Action (PM):** Submit proposal for acoustic measurements for sound engineers tutorial for New York.
- **Action (EC):** Develop proposal for workshop or tutorial (whichever is deemed suitable) in collaboration with FM, ES, BR and/or PM, as necessary.

#### 4. AES 148 Europe (TBA) (Spring 2020)

- Due to lack of time, little was discussed regarding the next European convention.
- AH suggested that the sessions proposed for New York could be repeated in Europe.

#### 5. TC-ASR membership

- AH noted for the members not present at the New York TC meeting that Scott Burgess has stepped down as vice-chair of the TC.
- ES expressed interest in taking on the vice-chair role. Those present supported her proposal.
- FM, BR and UV all expressed interest in joining the TC. All present supported them joining, as they all are interested in active involvement with the TC.
- **Action (AH):** Confirm ES as vice-chair with KG and update on website.
- **Action (AH):** Add FM, BR and UV as TC members.
- **Post meeting note:** Adding ES as vice-chair of the TC was discussed and fully supported by members present at the Technical Council meeting.

#### 6. Noise pollution working group

- AH gave a brief update on the noise exposure and pollution working group. He has recently completed the initial report (well-over 100 pages long!), which is now with the working group members for comment. The report will be circulated to the full TC in early-May once revisions have been made based on the working group's feedback.
- EB, BK and EC all noted that there is a big issue with the continued use of A-weighting for noise monitoring and regulations, but updating the regulations (especially for noise exposure at events) is problematic as health and safety concerns prohibit experiments from being conducted on hearing loss due to high

levels of noise exposure. EC emphasized that this is a big contributor to regulations being so out of date.

- AH emphasized that a major finding contained within the group's report is noise exposure from ground-based subwoofer systems, especially with members in the first few rows of the audience. Foam ear plugs won't protect these individuals from low-frequency noise exposure due to bone/tissue conduction. EC supported this and referred to his recent work presented in New York pointing towards the superiority of flown subwoofer systems.
- EB and BK suggested AH contact Durand Begault, who has done considerable work on noise exposure and could be beneficial to get input from for the working group.
- **Action (AH):** Contact Durand Begault to see if he's interested in contributing to the working group.

#### 7. Any other business

- ES raised a concern that there seems to be a disconnect between students studying audio-based courses at university and the sound reinforcement R&D side of the industry. She wondered if a student and educator-focused workshop would be beneficial for the New York convention to discuss how to raise awareness of career paths into R&D in the industry. EC noted that AH's courses at Derby do this well, but many others don't make the connection to R&D. AH offered to take part in a workshop, if it would be useful.
- **Action (ES):** Consider developing proposal for a workshop in New York and/or Europe on education and knowledge transfer in sound reinforcement, with a specific focus on getting students and educators to gain a better focus on the R&D side of the industry.

*Minutes compiled by AH, 27 March 2019.*