

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

## **Minutes from Technical Committee meeting– AES New York 2019**

**Thursday, 17 October 2019, 12 – 1pm, Room 1C02**

### **Attendance:**

Adam Hill (chair) – AH, Kurt Graffy (chair) – KG, Elena Shabalina (vice-chair) – ES, Andy Wardle – AW, Boris Rehders – BR, Noly Sebastien – NS, Ole Moesmann – OM, Eddy Brixen – EB, Malle Kaas – MK, Samuel Moulin – SM, Etienne Corteel – EC, Peter Mapp – PM, Bob Lee – BL

### **Apologies:**

Marcel Kok – MK, Christian Frick – CF

#### **1. Proposed actions from AES 146 Dublin minutes**

- Minutes from AES Dublin were reviewed, focusing on actions arising.
- KG discussed ongoing issue with imbalance between active US and European members. One issue may be the TC's lack of visibility to the wider AES community. AH noted that many of the current US TC members are retired and no longer attending AES conventions. AH also noted that TC membership discussions shouldn't be limited to US and Europe. We should encourage wider participation from other areas of the world.
- AH noted that all Dublin meeting actions relating to the New York convention will be discussed in the next point on the meeting agenda.

#### **2. AES 147 New York – sessions supported by TC-ASR**

- AH noted that TC-ASR was supporting 5 workshops at the New York convention, which is great to see (the target was 3). The sessions were chaired by EC, EB, PM, AH and ES.
- AH mentioned that the original proposal from PM on acoustic measurements for sound engineers was seen by the convention committee to potentially clash with a sound system tuning session run by Bob McCarthy, so PM offered a different session on psychoacoustics for sound engineers. AH thanked PM for accommodating this change.
- There had been good cooperation between TC-ASR and the sound reinforcement track chair (Henry Cohen) for this convention. AH initiated communication immediately after the Dublin convention and ensured that all TC-sponsored

sessions were included in the SR track. The early communication was key to achieving this and should be repeated for future US conventions. AH noted that EB's session had to be shifted to the acoustics and psychoacoustics track due to lack of space on the SR track.

- **Action (AH):** Ensure communication to New York SR track chair begins soon after AES Vienna to allow for integration of TC-sponsored sessions.

### 3. AES 148 Vienna – sessions supported by TC-ASR

- AH began the discussion on potential Vienna sessions by asking the committee members present for any proposals. Some possibilities:
  - Repeat of EB and MK's PA shoot-out session from New York
  - PM session on acoustic measurements for sound engineers (subject to availability)
  - Repeat of ES's session from New York (although current schedule clash with ES)
  - Repeat EC's session on system calibration
  - Repeat AH's session on event sound exposure/noise pollution
- KG reminded the TC that we also cover acoustics and need to ensure we consider sessions in this subject area as well.
- KG suggested that invited paper sessions were originally supported by the TC before workshops/tutorials became the norm. It may be worth exploring the possibility of this for future conventions. ES, EC and AH expressed interest in organizing an invited paper session for Vienna, possibly surrounding the work of the TC's group looking into sound exposure and noise pollution due to outdoor events. ES emphasized that such a session would be likely to have high quality papers presented, which would reflect well on the TC. EC suggested that such a contribution could also help the conference organizers (one less thing to plan). PM suggested that a European convention would be easier to fit such a session in, in the first instance.
- A discussion was had on the continuing issue of workshop/tutorial presenters losing their free registration if they want to present a paper as well. Those present agreed that this seemed unfair to members putting in the extra effort to put together these sessions. AH noted that this situation applied to a very small group of people, hence the financial impact wouldn't be significant for the AES. PM reported that there was currently some movement on this issue within the AES. BL suggested AH attend the convention policy meeting the following day.
- **Action (EB + MK):** Confirm whether repeating PA shoot-out session for Vienna. If so, submit proposal.

- **Action (PM):** Confirm whether attending Vienna and want to deliver session on acoustic measurements for sound engineers. If so, submit proposal.
- **Action (ES):** Confirm whether attending Vienna and want to repeat session on SR knowledge transfer. If so, submit proposal. If not, could this session be run by another set of TC members?
- **Action (EC):** Confirm whether repeating system tuning session for Vienna. If so, submit proposal.
- **Action (AH):** Confirm whether repeating sound exposure/noise pollution session for Vienna. If so, submit proposal.
- **Action (EC, ES, AH):** Discuss the possibility of having a TC supported paper session in Vienna with the convention committee. If committee is open to this suggestion, identify individuals who are available and willing to contribute. This will need to be done very soon to ensure enough time for the papers to be written. Due to the limited timeframe, this may need to be pushed to a later convention.

#### 4. AES 149 New York (October 2019)

- Session proposals for the New York 2020 convention weren't discussed, as the focus is on Vienna at present.
- KG, BL and PM led a discussion on the location of the US conventions. It was felt that alternating between coasts was a good idea and keeping the convention in New York every year wasn't preferred. BL highlighted the increased flexibility at the convention centers used on the west coast, as compared to New York.

#### 5. TC-ASR membership/leadership

- AH noted that ES has been officially named vice-chair of the TC.
- AH noted other new members of the TC since the last meeting. The focus remains on attracting new members who will be active in TC activities.

#### 6. Event sound exposure and noise pollution working group – update

- AH gave a brief update on the progress of the TC's working group. The final report should be published in the first half of 2020.
- ES commented on the significant amount of research that the report highlights which needs to be carried out to resolve current ambiguities. A coordinated effort is needed, as this will likely make up a long-term project involving many academic and industrial partners. There is potential for the TC to have a direct role in the coordination of this work. The exact structure of such an undertaking is still being considered by ES and AH.
- **Action (AH):** Finalize working group report and work with AES to get it published in 2020.
- **Action (ES + AH):** Continue to develop ideas for long-term sustainable research project stemming from findings highlighted in the working group report.

7. AES Inside Track – call out for contributors

- AH let those present know that Francis Rumsey is looking for new contributors for AES Inside Track, an monthly online feature on a specific subject area. Anyone interested should contact Francis directly.

8. Any other business

- KG suggested that a session on room modeling would be useful and would help the TC maintain focus on both acoustics and sound reinforcement. KG also mentioned that immersive audio is a big topic in sound reinforcement (and other areas) at the moment. EC said that the discussion has already started and there is increasing interest in this area in industry. EB noted that in theatre, such technology is already being used (and has been for many years).
- **Action (TC members):** Consider whether able to develop a workshop/tutorial session on room modeling and notify AH or KG if interested.
- **Action (EC, ES, other TC members):** Consider developing a workshop/tutorial session on immersive audio in sound reinforcement. Notify AH or KG if interested.

*Minutes compiled by AH, 25 October 2019.*