AES Technical Committee on Acoustics and Sound Reinforcement

Minutes from Technical Committee meeting– AES (Virtual) Vienna 2020

Wednesday, 3 June 2020, 5 – 6pm (CEST), MS Teams

Attendance:

Adam Hill (chair) – AH, Kurt Graffy (chair) – KG, Elena Shabalina (vice-chair) – ES, Andy Wardle – AW, Boris Rehders – BR, Eddy Brixen – EB, Etienne Corteel – EC, Peter Mapp – PM, Bruce Olson – BO, Bob McCarthy – BM, Olushola Aremu – OA, Tobias Goldmann – TG

Apologies:

Francis Rumsey – FR, Ugis Vilcans - UV

1. Proposed actions from AES 147 New York minutes

   - Minutes from AES New York were reviewed, focusing on actions arising.

   - AH noted that early communication with the New York convention committee worked well in aligning the TC's proposed sessions with the Sound Reinforcement track. A similar approach should be taken this year.

   - AH noted that all New York meeting actions relating to the Vienna convention will be discussed in the next point on the meeting agenda.

2. AES 148 (Virtual) Vienna – sessions supported by TC-ASR

   - AH noted that TC-ASR was supporting 3 workshops at the (Virtual) Vienna convention, which is great to see (the target was 3). The session contributors include TC members: EB and BM.

   - AH noted that before the decision was made to move the convention to an online format, there were 3 additional sessions supported by the TC that were accepted as well as an invited tutorial session, which was to include 6 short tutorials on sound reinforcement and acoustics topics relating to live event sound exposure and noise pollution. These sessions were withdrawn, due to concerns that they wouldn't fit the online format well. In hindsight, these sessions would have probably been fine to deliver online, but the decision was made at the beginning of the health crisis, when we were less used to delivering remotely.

   - Many TC members commented that they have been attending the (Virtual) Vienna convention and were enjoying the sessions. EB noted that many sessions were pre-recorded to ensure the best possible quality, with live Q&A sessions following the pre-recorded content. All content would be available on-demand after the convention, which is great for reaching a wider audience.

3. AES 149 New York – sessions supported by TC-ASR

- AH opened the floor to suggestions for the next convention, with the presumption that the convention will be at least partially online.

- The following sessions were suggested (general topics indicated):

  - PM: noise and RT measurements

  - PM: acoustics for online audio

  - ES: knowledge transfer and education (expanded from the Dublin session)

  - ES: sound reinforcement fundamentals (acoustics, physics, electronics, etc.)

  - EC: 3D audio for live sound

  - EC: AVB

  - KG: the effect of room acoustics on 3D audio systems

  - AW: online education

- BM indicated that he would be happy to contribute to ES's session on education and knowledge transfer.

- AH asked whether we should revive some of the older acoustics sessions that the TC used to support. KG noted that these sessions were delivered regularly at conventions for many years, hence the break, but maybe it's time to deliver them again.

- AH suggested that if ES delivered a session on fundamentals, that this should be delivered towards the beginning of the convention and should cover pre-requisite knowledge for the more advanced sessions.

- **Action (PM, ES, EC, KG, AW):** Confirm whether attending AES New York (in person or virtually). If the appropriate presentation options are provided, submit proposal by the published deadline.

- **Action (AH):** Send out reminders to TC members listed in above action, reminding them of the proposal deadline when it gets nearer.

- **Action (KG):** Contact TC members who delivered the old acoustics sessions (such as small room and large room acoustics) to see if they'd like to revive these.

4. AES 150 Europe (Spring 2021)

- Session proposals for the Europe 2021 convention weren't discussed in detail, as the focus is on New York at present.

- ES noted that if the New York convention will be online (even partially), then we need to keep in mind that there won't be the usual divide between US and European attendees, hence less need to repeat sessions. KG supported this, saying

that online delivery will help resolve this long-standing issue of the geographical divide.

- AH hoped that the AES would maintain an online attendance option, even when face-to-face conventions were able to happen again. This would widen the audience, allowing for better transmission of ideas (and also help bring in more convention revenue).

- ES and AH noted that if online attendance becomes standard at conventions, sessions should strive to not be repeats from past conventions but follow on from previous sessions.

5. TC-ASR membership/leadership

- AH noted new members to the TC since the last meeting and confirmed there were no planned changes to the leadership.

- AH invited OA and TG to introduce themselves, as new members to the committee. Both indicated clear ideas in bridging various gaps between sectors and regions. OA was interested in representing activities in Africa within the TC while TG saw the need for better communication between the TC and similar groups in acoustics.

- **Action (AH):** Ensure OA and TG are added to the TC membership list.

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

- AH shared that the working group report has been published in May as an AES Technical Document: http://www.aes.org/technical/documents/
- AH thanked all contributors to the report and hoped that it would help to promote good practice in industry and inspire new research projects.
- **Action (ES + AH):** Continue to develop ideas for long-term sustainable research project stemming from findings highlighted in the working group report.

7. Any other business

- No additional items we discussed.

Minutes compiled by AH, 4 June 2020.