AES Audio Forensics TC Meeting Minutes Form

1 General Information

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Meeting Date</th>
<th>August 11, 2023</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Meeting Location</td>
<td>Remote - Virtual Meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chaired By</td>
<td>Cole Whitecotton, James Zjalic, Gretchel Lomboy</td>
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<td>Parties Present</td>
<td>Cole Whitecotton</td>
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<td></td>
<td>James Zjalic</td>
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<td>Gretchel Lomboy</td>
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<td>Anibal Ferreira</td>
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<td>Gordon Reid</td>
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<td>Marisa Dery</td>
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<td>Rob Maher</td>
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<td>Jeff Smith</td>
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<td>Dante Fazio</td>
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<td>Durand Begault</td>
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<td>Dan Rappaport</td>
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https://www.aes.org/technical/af/

2 Meeting Agenda

<table>
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<tr>
<th>#</th>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Discussion Summary</th>
<th>Proposed Actions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Previous Meeting Minutes</td>
<td>● N/A</td>
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Document Reference: AES_TC_M

Version #: 0.1

Date of Issue: 08/11/2023

Document Status: Approved

Approved By: 2023 TC
## Status of Previous Meeting Actions
- N/A

## Priority Items
- Introductions

### Planned Discussion

- **AES 2024 AF Conference Announcement**
  - (TENTATIVELY June 27-29) @ Sheraton Hotel, Downtown Denver CO
  - Requesting chairs for conference org-chart
    - Need at least 2 chairs for each section
  - Feedback on dates for submissions
    - Jan 31st?
    - Need to strike a balance that offers enough time to gather materials as well as review all of them in time to create & plan a program
    - Provide enough time for those travelling (esp. international attendees) to be able to acquire agenda & start planning their trip
  - What types of papers would be "acceptable"?
    - Removal of all commercial interest from presentations - Or just workshops?
    - Divide the types of papers (product oriented, etc.) for review process
    - Allowing for more participation versus restrictions - increase paper count by separating papers with a lower bar of entry
    - We should focus on papers that have problems, solutions, outcomes
    - Disclosure of commercial affiliations
    - Academic component versus broad
    - Perhaps we could create "tiers" of papers?
  - The AF Conference will not be live-streamed and will be attendance only
  - Potential recruitment for conference could be a panel of tech folks from Axon and other body-worn camera manufacturers (SoundThinking - the ShotSpotter company), and maybe even doorbell camera companies

- **How often would everyone like to attend these meetings?**
  - Worth meeting once a month leading up to the conference
  - If we do meetings more often, the meetings could be potentially shorter; less often meetings could be longer
  - Some are in favor for a standing meeting once a month
  - Most likely going to be planned for Fridays

- Update "recent/planned Activities" on AF Website
- Send an org chart to TC-AF for volunteers
- Figure out Papers Chairs ASAP
- Send out a call for papers/presentations
  - Meeting with chairs of sections
  - Provide categories of paper submissions
    - Scientific research, Case Studies, Workshops, Paneled Discussions, Presentations, etc.

- Plan on inviting those involved with forensics (law enforcement practitioners, attorneys, etc.) to attend meetings and perhaps provide case studies for the conference
7 Open Floor

- **How shall we handle those interested in joining the TC-AF group?**
  - Meetings are open to everybody, but how shall we handle actual membership?
  - Want to avoid gatekeeping, but also value standards
  - Defining & expanding topic area for the group?
  - Incorporate video aspect?
  - Requirement to be active in the committee - anyone who wanted to remain in the committee had to attend committee meetings and events
  - Want to avoid those who would like to be members for "resume fodder"
  - The more active we can be, the more likely we can acquire those interested in becoming members

- **Standards Committee**
  - Position paper on Deepfake Audio
    - Importance of understanding what to "listen for"
    - Urge for AES to respond to Deepfake Audio with an opinion paper
    - What is our role as AES to provide an opinion? Technical Committees should represent science
    - Perhaps we could hold a forum on the issue in the form of a workshop at a conference discussing the topic
    - Could perhaps address it under "Emerging Trends"
    - The TC could show relevancy via conference workshops and conventions instead of providing a position paper on this topic
    - Position papers come off as non-solutions, and as a technical committee we should probably avoid distributing opinions
    - Would need official AES stamp of approval first
    - Jeff is happy to contribute to a workshop in October on the topic of deepfake audio
    - Is there a scientific approach to detect deepfake audio where the error rate of the approach can be quantified?

- To maintain membership to TC-AF, members must be active participants in meetings & events
- Create a standard workshop for the TC-AF to put on during AES conferences
- Look into providing a workshop for the upcoming AES conference in October
  - Even though AES workshop proposal deadline was May 31, it might still be possible to get something in by discussing with AES workshops chair or even the convention co-chairs
One approach used by other technical fields is to form a "working group" that includes people from the justice system, perhaps even judges, who discuss how to handle admissibility of evidence in the context of machine learning and potential forgeries.

- **Interest in running a workshop each year at the AES conference in October - “intro-to/state-of Audio Forensics” as a means of generating interest and bringing people into the group**
  - When was the last "intro to Audio Forensics" workshop held?
    - Most likely 2015 provided by Gordon Reid & Eddie Brixen in Warsaw
  - Even though the workshop may be repetitive to us as a committee, the AES is constantly getting new students and members every year
  - We could look into providing workshops at universities or other venues to glean more interest & replenish our group

- **Shared Difficulties/Experiences?**

3 Next Meeting

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agreed Meeting Date</th>
<th>Meeting Time</th>
<th>Meeting Location</th>
<th>Proposed Agenda Items</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>09/08/2023</td>
<td>08:00 PST / 16:00 GMT</td>
<td>Remote - Virtual Meeting</td>
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