

**Midwest Symposium on Circuits and Systems  
STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Wednesday, 15 August 2001**

**Engineers Club  
Wright State University  
Dayton, Ohio**

**Attendance:**

Hoda Abdel-Aty-Zohdy  
Peter Aronhime  
G.R. Branner  
Hal Carter  
Damian Chaffin  
Robert Ewing  
M. Farooq  
Igor Filanovsky  
Randy Gieger  
Nadder Hamdy  
Reza Hashemian  
Takao Hinamoto  
Ken Jenkins  
Manuel Jimenz  
Sayfe Kiaei  
Sherif Michael  
Wasfy Mikhael  
Behrouz Nowrourian  
Carla Purdy  
Fathi Salam  
Bell Sheno  
Michael Soderstrand  
Liliana Trajkovic  
Mona Zaghoul  
T. Wehner

**1. Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Robert Ewing at 8:30 p.m.

**2. Introduction**

Robert Ewing, MWSCAS 2001 General Chair, introduced members of the organizing committee. This was followed by individual introductions of all present at the meeting.

**3. Committee Reports**

a) 43<sup>rd</sup> MWSCAS (2001) – R. Ewing

R. Ewing reported the following facts and information for the 2001 MWSCAS:

- The symposium had 254 paid registered attendees.
- The symposium was organized into 45 sessions held in seven meeting rooms over the course of three days. There were four tutorials, one panel discussion on Innovative Technology and four keynote speakers. There were two luncheons and one banquet.
- The technical program received 310 paper submissions of which 240 were accepted. There were 15 invited papers for the two Power Systems special sessions. Three invited, but unpublished papers were presented in the Research Consortium session.
- Proceedings were published before the symposium and available during registration. This received favorable comments from many attendees. Some attendees like to have the proceedings available before the start of a session so that they can familiarize themselves with the work being presented.
- Student registrants received all the same benefits as fully paid attendees, i.e meals, proceedings, banquet etc.
- Many attendees expressed concern that the proceedings were not being offered on CD-ROM. It was the original intention not to offer the CD-ROM format, but it is being reconsidered due to the large demand, budget permitting.
- There were also numerous requests for Internet access. This service was not being offered.
- Some attendees requested “confirmation of attendance” letter, but the registration area had no way of fulfilling this type of request.

Wasfy Mikhael expressed gratitude on behalf of the MWSCAS Steering Committee to the current organizing committee.

b) 44<sup>th</sup> MWSCAS (2002) – M. Soderstrand

M. Soderstrand distributed a written report to all members of the steering committee. The report contained an overview of the organizing committee, technical program, venue, request for student paper contest and the preliminary Call for Papers. Some of the key points of the report:

- The conference dates will return to a Sunday – Wednesday Schedule (August 4 – 7, 2002). Tutorials will be on Sunday afternoon and the conference will be all day Monday and Tuesday and one-half day on Wednesday.
- Conference registration will include a welcome reception on Sunday, a luncheon on Monday and the Banquet on Tuesday.
- The MWSCAS Steering Committee will have a luncheon meeting on Wednesday.
- The conference will be held at the new campus of Oklahoma State University located in Tulsa Oklahoma. The opening session and the student paper contest will be held in the OSU-Tulsa main theater, which holds 375 people. Breakout sessions, including poster sessions, will be held in meeting rooms at the conference center of OSU-Tulsa. The

luncheon on Monday will be held at the conference hotel, the Adam Mark Hotel in downtown Tulsa, a short distance from OSU-Tulsa. The dinner banquet on Tuesday will be held at Discoveryland and will include the stage play Oklahoma.

- Basic registration fees will be (advance/on-site) IEEE member: \$300/\$350, Regular: \$350/\$400, Student (non-authors): \$60/\$100, Life Members: \$150/\$175. There will also be a one day registration fee of \$50 offered.
- A student paper contest, with awards to be presented on Monday, was proposed with prizes in the amount of \$1000 for first place, \$500 second place and \$250 third place.

Discussion amongst the various committee members ensued regarding the student paper contest and the use of Steering Committee fund monies in general. M. Soderstrand felt that the funds have been idle and should be used to promote the quality of the conference. Other committee members felt that the funds should remain intact in order to cover unforeseen losses in future conferences. At the conclusion of discussion, M. Soderstrand put forth the following motion:

**Motion:** \$4230 be allocated to the 45<sup>th</sup> MWSCAS to support the student paper contest. The money will be used as follows:

1. \$1750 is allocated for the winners of the contest (\$1000 first, \$500 second, \$250, third).
2. \$2000 is allocated to travel grants for the eight students selected for the contest (\$250 per student).
3. Registration fees for the eight students selected for the contest (\$60 per student).

Friendly amendment: Source of funds is from MWSCAS Steering Committee fund.

Motion seconded.

6 votes in favor of the motion. 8 votes opposed the motion.

The motion fails.

Following the vote on the motion, further discussion ensued about the MWSCAS Steering Committee fund, at which time it was brought to light that any IEEE sponsored conference may NOT fund surplus accounts from conference proceeds and may NOT provide carry forward loans for future conferences of the same series.

Discussion ensued about the policy of publishing the proceedings before or after the conference. Soderstrand felt that this decision should be left to each general chair, citing that there are advantages to each policy, the essence being that accepted authors are required to register for the conference versus concern that accepted authors show up to present their paper (i.e. paid registration versus quality of presentations).

c) 43<sup>rd</sup> MWSCAS 2000 Report – F. Salam

310 paid registrants  
340 total attendees.  
Paper total 334  
169 oral  
117 poster  
48 invited special sessions

All submission & reviews via web  
3 plenary presentations.

Income \$83307.50  
Expense \$73300  
Estimated net \$10k

d) 46<sup>th</sup> MWSCAS 2003 proposal – N. Hamdy

A written proposal to host the 45<sup>th</sup> MWSCAS during 2003 in Cairo, Egypt was circulated and presented by N. Hamdy. Proposed conference dates were 27-30 December. Social and tourist attractions were presented. The proposed venue is the Pyramisa hotel which is a 5 star hotel. N. Hamdy has secured a preliminary room rate of \$50 per night. It was stressed that the proposed dates are flexible. Discussion ensued about possible dates. There was concern about the proposed dates interfering with US Christmas vacation. The dates and final decision will be deferred to further discussion at a later time.

e) 47<sup>th</sup> MWSCAS 2004 Proposal

T. Hinamoto presented a proposal for MWSCAS 2004 to be hosted in Japan, based upon an earlier request from the steering committee.

M. Jimenz, representing a proposal from Puerto Rico, presented an acceptance letter from H. Abdel-Aty-Zohdy pointing out the fact that the steering committee had already accepted his proposal to host MWSCAS 2004. H. Abdel-Aty-Zohdy pointed out that a complete proposal, including venue and proposed dates, was not part of the original proposal, so full acceptance was actually tentative.

B. Shenoj proposed that the Japan proposal be accepted for 2004 and that the Puerto Rico proposal be moved to 2005. R. Gieger raised the point that if an acceptance letter is sent, it must be honored and the proposal from Puerto Rico must stand.

It was established that a misunderstanding exists. Puerto Rico has an acceptance letter from H. Abdel-Aty-Zohdy but never submitted a complete proposal. Japan was asked to submit a proposal for 2004 and presented it at this meeting and would like a decision

regarding 2004 in Japan. Japan is unwilling to commit to hosting in 2006 and a conflict exists for 2005 because ISCAS will be held in Japan that year.

The entire matter has been deferred until a future time.

f) 48<sup>th</sup> MWSCAS 2005 Proposal

No proposals were offered at this time.

g) 49<sup>th</sup> MWSCAS 2006 Proposal

Carla Purdy and Hal Carter circulated a proposal to host the 49<sup>th</sup> MWSCAS in Cincinnati, Ohio in conjunction with the University of Cincinnati. A written proposal was provided to all committee members. The proposal will be reviewed and discussed at a future steering committee meeting.

h) Membership Committee Report

W. Mikael, Membership Chair, will update the list of members who are still active according to membership criteria. General criteria means being an active volunteer for MWSCAS in some capacity. It was requested that Fathi Salam verify who has signature authority on the Steering Committee surplus account.

Motion: If Fathi Salam does not already have signature authority on the steering committee fund account, he has authority to attain it.

Second. Approved unanimous.

Meeting adjourned at 11:00 p.m.