

Preliminary Report for MWSCAS Steering Committee Meeting
45th IEEE International Midwest Symposium on Circuits and Systems
Oklahoma State University, Tulsa, Oklahoma
August 4-7, 2002

Introduction

The 45th IEEE International MWSCAS is being held this week at the OSU-Tulsa campus in Tulsa Oklahoma. This preliminary report to the MWSCAS Steering Committee contains information of interest to the steering committee and augments the material found in the conference program. This report is intended to incorporate all the material in the conference program as part of the preliminary report to the MWSCAS Steering Committee.

Chair and Co-Chair Report

There were several items that were key to the success of this conference that we would like to share with the MWSCAS Steering Committee. Sponsors were very important to this conference. We secured approximately \$20,000 from 23 different sponsors. Without this, the conference would have been about \$20,000 in the hole. One recommendation for future conferences is to set the student rate a bit higher. We set a \$100 rate for IEEE Student Members (\$150 at the conference) in order to assist students in attending the conference. However, we found that we were losing about \$50 per student attendee.

We believe that one of the reasons we were able to get a good turnout at this year's symposium was the use of email lists. There were three primary lists that we used:

1. The Circuits and Systems Society members email list (most valuable)
2. The MWSCAS Steering Committee email list
3. Last year's MWSCAS conference email list

We found these three lists very useful in letting people know about the conference.

Technical Program Chair Report

We received a total of 578 papers of which 168 were invited papers. Exactly 400 papers were presented in lecture sessions (10 sessions of four papers each) and 128 papers were presented in 10 poster sessions. Not counting invited papers, 410 papers were submitted for review of which 360 were accepted for an acceptance rate of 87.8%.

The technical program committee consisted of ten track chairs who recruited five session chairs each. Each session chair was asked to invite up to four papers to fill out two session (total of eight papers). All members of the MWSCAS Steering Committee were offered invited papers. This could have resulted in a maximum of 200 invited papers, but actually resulted in 168. Session chairs were asked to seek new people who were doing good work, but who did not normally attend MWSCAS in addition to Steering Committee Members. We believe this approach worked very well in attracting some new excellent papers to the symposium.

We contracted with Tom Wehner to provide the web-based paper submission services. This worked out very well and we were very happy with the results. Tom worked with MOSART productions and the Print House for graphics design and printing. We also decided to offer CD-ROM versions of the proceedings as part of the conference registration and to charge extra for those who wanted printed proceedings.

The technical program committee feels that things worked very well this year. We recommend to next year's conference that they follow a similar pattern.

Conference Statistics

As of noon on Monday August 4, we had 483 paid attendees, 26 sponsor attendees, 12 complementary attendees and 35 volunteers for a total attendance of 556. We do expect additional walk-in registration on Tuesday and Wednesday, so these figures are not complete.

Monday's tours were also very well subscribed. Both tours to Flight Safety International were full (20 maximum in each group). The Utica Square shopping tour and the three Williams Communications tours were also well subscribed. There are still slots available for the ABB tour on Wednesday and the Tuesday tours as well. However, we expect additional signups tomorrow morning.

We had an excellent group of tutorials on Sunday. We had 5 people attend Scott Douglas's Blind Separation tutorial, 11 attend Edward Delp's Digital Watermarking tutorial, and 12 attend Gabriel Rincon-Mora's DC-DC Converter tutorial.

Awards Luncheon

At the awards luncheon today we honored long-time MWSCAS Steering Committee member Majid Ahmadi and gave out the Myril B. Reed Best Paper Award for last year's conference to Henry H.Y. Chan and Zeljko Zilic for their paper titled: SUBSTRATE COUPLED NOISE REDUCTION AND ACTIVE NOISE SUPPRESSION CIRCUITS FOR MIXED-SIGNAL SYSTEM-ON-A-CHIP DESIGNS.

The winners of the sixth annual MWSCAS Student Paper Contest were also announced. We had nearly 200 papers submitted for the contest this year with the following results:

First Place Tie: Tommy Tsang, McGill University, Canada
(\$1000) Anthony Long, University of California, Santa Barbara

Second Place: Sebastian Magierowski, University of Toronto, Canada
(\$500)

Third Place: Omar Elkeelany, University of Missouri, Kansas City
(\$300)

Fourth Place Tie: Chuang Zhang, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge
(Disk Drives) Biju Mullul Veedu, Oklahoma State University, Tulsa, OK
Zhangwen Tang, Fudan University, Shanghai China