

Minute from the Underwater (UW) Technical Committee (TC) Meeting  
Baltimore, Maryland  
April 22, 2010  
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The UW TC meeting had approximately 100 people in attendance and lasted 1.5 hours in duration. Several items were discussed during the meeting. A brief synopsis is provided below:

- Appointees of UW representatives to the Medals & Awards, Membership, Student Council, and Standards committees were announced and recognized.
  - Eric Thorsos was recognized as the new Medals & Awards Chair; Eric presented a short overview of activities in the committee, particularly the medal allocation scheme.
  - Alex Sell was welcomed as the new Student Council representative, and made some brief comments about upcoming student activities.
- Associate Editors for Underwater Sound in JASA and JASA-EL were presented and recognized; this included the recent approval for Martin Siderius (to replace Bill Siegmann).
- Two special sessions were discussed and approved for Seattle.
- Three special sessions were discussed and tentatively approved for the San Diego meeting. There was some question on whether one of the proposed sessions should be UW or AO.
- Nick Chotiros was identified as the UW representative for the Cancun TPOM.
- A revised version of the formal statement of scope for the UW TC was presented. After minimal revision during the TC meeting there was a (unanimous) vote to approve as the new scope. The statement of scope is as follows:

“The Underwater Acoustics TC is focused on sound-wave phenomena in the ocean and seabed, with primary emphasis on the following topics:

1. Propagation phenomena: steady-state and transient solutions of the wave equation, including boundary effects, and seismoacoustics.
  2. Scattering and reverberation: characterization and quantification.
  3. Ambient noise: noise sources, spectra, directionality, and spatial/temporal fluctuations.
  4. Signal processing and sonar algorithms, with emphasis on the detection of signals in noise and statistical analysis.
  5. Underwater acoustic instrumentation.”
- Dave Bradley presented outcomes of the 2010 UW Technical Initiative entitled “Evaluation of current state of support for basic research”. The first outcome was a brief description of the ONR funding level for UW, which has decreased dramatically over the past decade. The second outcome was a letter of concern that will be presented to ONR leadership: this letter was available after the end of the TC meeting for individuals to sign if they choose. The third outcome was intent to request a letter from the ASA (signed by the president) voicing concern at the society level. A vote was taken for support for this action, with an overwhelming majority of support (six individuals abstained due to association with ONR, all other votes were affirmative). The Executive Council subsequently voted to endorse the letter.
  - Representatives from ONR made two announcements. The first was to announce a new team leader for the ONR OA program, Dr Bob Headrick, replacing Dr Ellen Livingstone effective August 2010. The second announcement was notification of a OA funding opportunity.