

These are the minutes from the Underwater Acoustics (UW) Technical Committee (TC) meeting at the 173rd Acoustical Society of America (ASA) meeting in Boston, Massachusetts. The TC meeting was held on Wednesday, 28 June 2017 from 8:00 pm to 9:15 pm and was chaired by Megan Ballard. There were approximately 40 attendees.

First, special sessions for the upcoming meetings of the ASA were discussed. The three special sessions for the 174th meeting in New Orleans were reviewed: “Sediment characterization using direct and inverse techniques” organized by David P. Knobles and Preston S. Wilson, “Seagrass and Macroalgae Acoustics” organized by Preston S. Wilson and Jean-Pierre Hermand, and “Session in Honor of Chester McKinney” organized by Thomas Muir and Clark Penrod. Two special sessions the Minneapolis meeting were proposed: “Target Scattering,” organized by Dan Plotnick, and “Parallel Computing,” organized by YT Lin and Megan Ballard. Three special sessions for the Victoria meeting were proposed: “Unmanned Vehicles,” organized by Erin Fischell, “Vector Sensor Processing,” organized by Bob Barton, and “Revisiting old experiments with new solutions,” organized by John Boyle.

Next a proposal to hold the 182nd Meeting of the ASA in Sydney, Australia was discussed. According to the proposal, the meeting would be joint with Australian Acoustical Society, Western Pacific Acoustics Commission, Pacific Rim Underwater Acoustics Conference, and it is planned for November 2021. The TC was generally supportive of the proposal, and many of the members indicated they would attend the proposed meeting.

The chair made several announcements. The TC was reminded that Special Content articles, including Special Issues, Guest articles, Reviews, Tutorials, Forum articles, are free to publish and free to download. The ASA Utube channel was presented, and the chair asked for volunteers to create a utube clip promoting TCUW. No one indicated any interest in this task.

Several announcements targeted at student members were made. The TC congratulated Nikhil Mistry and Matthew Huber, the TC UW Best Student Paper Award winners from the Honolulu meeting. Then Brian Worthmann made numerous announcements about student activities, including the need for more members to sign up for the Students Meet Members for Lunch (SMMfL) Program.

Lily Wang presented the “Hunt Recognition Fundraising Campaign” to endow a new award: “ASA Early Career Leadership Fellows.” There will be a dinner at the New Orleans meeting to raise funds for this award. This prize will be awarded to two fellows annually and consist of \$3000 prize and \$1500 for travel to ASA meetings.

Jim Miller addressed the TC with information about a new award for students, which will be known as the Urick Award. There is expected to be a monetary prize associated with the award. The eligibility requirements and evaluation criteria are yet to be determined.

Next Ray Soukup addressed the TC concerning Environmental Compliance requirements for ONR sponsored projects. The chair presented slides on behalf of Roger Logan, the TC UW ASA Committee on Standards (ASACOS) representative.

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173rd ASA Meeting in Boston, MA (25 – 29 June 2017)

John Colosi announced the Munk Centennial Symposium, which will be held in San Diego, 29 – 30 August 2017. Kathleen Wage announced the IEEE Underwater Acoustic Signal Processing Workshop, which will be held at the Whispering Pines Conference Center at the University of Rhode Island 4 – 6 October 2017. This meeting is co-sponsored by the ASA.

The meeting was officially adjourned by the chair at 9:15 pm.