

MINUTES (APPROVED at October 6 2023 AdCom Meeting at IROS)

IEEE Robotics and Automation Society Administrative Committee (AdCom) Meeting

**Saturday, August 15, 2023
09:00-11:00pm EDT (Virtual)**

1) Meeting Called to Order, and Welcome (Mombaur)

2) Roll Call and Review of Consent Agenda (Mombaur)

- **ATTENDEES:**
- **11 Elected Members (Voting Members)**
 - **Class of 2023:** Tamim Asfour, Maria Pia Fanti, Yoshihiko Nakamura,
 - **Class of 2024:** Arash Ajoudani, Nancy Amato, Fumihito Arai, Karinne Ramirez Amaro, Inna Sharf
 - **Class of 2025:** Yasuhisa Hirata, Eiichi Yoshida, Hong Zhang
- Not Attending: Angela Schoellig, Aleksandra Faust, Michael Yu Wang, , Kenji Suzuki, Alin Albu-Shaeffer, Sabine Hauert, Lydia Kavraki
- **4 Society Officers (Voting Members):** Frank Park, Katja Mombaur, Tony Maciejewski, Aude Billard,
Not attending: Seth Hutchinson, Enrica Tricomi
- **8 Non Voting Members:** Stefano Stramigioli, Patrick M. Wensing, Paul Oh, Bram Vanderborght, Hiromi Mochiyama, Todd Murphey, Kyujin Cho, Andreas Mueller
Not Attending: Wolfram Burgard, Andra Keay

3) Approval of Agenda (Mombaur) (PASSED)

- (Including Consent Agenda and Standing Orders)
- Full agenda can be found at <https://agd.ieee.org/mpt/Agenda.aspx?eid=18350>

4) Welcome and Agenda Details (Park)

5) FAB Report (Mochiyama)

6) RAS 2023 First Pass Budget Approval (Mochiyama)

- See budget attached to agenda

Motion: To approve the revised 2024 First Pass Budget based on the 2024 First View Budget.
(Motion passed)

7) Financial Motions (Mochiyama)

3 MAB Motions. All are renewals of motions running out in 2023.

7a) MAB Motion: Budget to Support RAS Member Community Events (Renewal) (S. Stramigioli)

MAB has very successfully organized events at ICRA, IROS, CASE conferences for WIE, SAC, Young professionals etc. Spending for these events has exceeded the budget previously allocated for this purpose.

MOTION: To approve a budget of up to USD 60,000 annually for the years 2024-2026 to support RAS Member Community Events (including, but not limited to events organized by SAC, WIE and YP) at ICRA, IROS and CASE.

Total budget requested: up to \$180,000 USD over three years (2024-2026).

Proposal from the floor to modify motion to upgrade this budget to \$80,000 USD per year and \$240,000 USD over three years to take planned additional DIE events into account.

(Modified Motion passed)

7b) MAB Motion Budget to Support RAS Chapter Grants (Renewal) (S. Stramigioli)

MAB has been sponsoring RAS chapters with Start-up grants and new Initiative grants. There is an increase in the number of RAS Chapters and the requests from this program which is an opportunity to reach members in chapters in developing countries. Program shall be renewed with an increased budget.

MOTION:

To approve a budget of up to USD 60,000 annually for three years (2024-2026) for RAS Chapter Start-up (USD 500/each) and Initiative Grants (up to USD 2,000/each).

Total budget requested: up to \$180,000 USD over three years (2024-2026).

(Motion passed)

7d) MAB Motion Budget to Support RAS Distinguished Lecture Program (Renewal) (S. Stramigioli)

MAB requests funding for the RAS Distinguished Lecture Program.

MOTION: To approve a budget of up to USD 40,000 annually for the Distinguished Lecturer Program for 2024-2026.

Each Distinguished Lecturer may be reimbursed up to USD 5,000 per event for travel.

Total budget requested: up to \$120,000 USD over three years (2024-2026).

(Motion passed)

9) Motion to Approve ICRA & CASE Awards (POSTPONED)

10) Discussion: IEEE Transactions on Field Robotics (Murphey)

- The Wiley *Journal of Field Robotics's* Editorial Board resigned en masse in 2020 due to conflict with Wiley

- Hence, a new journal, *Field Robotics* (FR), was started, and has been run and financed independently
- The FR Editorial Board wants to become a RAS-sponsored periodical, *IEEE Transactions on Field Robotics* (T-FR)
- IEEE-TAB-PerCom is facilitating an expedited approval process
- We'll solicit PAB and AdCom approval at IROS
- We anticipate that IEEE-TAB will approve the journal in November
- Journal will launch in 2nd quarter 2024

11) Discussion: IROS MOU

- Update on IROS MOU and planning: Discussions with RSJ/SICE on future IROS sponsorship and governance are still going on
- Current status and letters exchanged with IROS Steering committee are shared.

12) Report - State of the Society (Park)

13) Other/New Business (Park)

14) Meeting Adjourned (Mombaur)

- Next meeting will be at IROS in Detroit, Oct 6 at 9am