

ASME Technical Committee on Multibody Systems and Nonlinear Dynamics (TC-MSND)

Sunday, July 25, 2003, 8:00 AM – 10:00 pm
Room G, Donaldson Brown Hotel and Conference Center
Blacksburg, Virginia

Minutes

1. 8:00, Meeting called to order by TC Chair Ahmed Shabana.
Meeting attended by: Kurt Anderson, Bala Balachandran, Alain Berlioz, Harry Dankowicz, Zheng-Dong Ma, Tamas Kalar-Nagy, Noel Perkins, Friedrich Pfeiffer, Ahmed Shabana, and Subhash Sinha.

2. 8:05 Approval of the minutes of last meeting without objection.

3. 8:09 Treasurer's report S. Sinha
Discussion of the money received so far (Itemized list provided – Addendum A). Some discussion on the amounts indicated (expected an additional \$1K from Working Model, another \$500 from AutoDesk). Discussion that all members of the TC need to continue working to attract donations to the endowment.

Discussion followed on planning for future> How much can/should be peeled off from upcoming conference income to be applied to endowment of Lyapunov and D'Alembert Awards. ASME will give TC funds based on success of conference (how many participants). It was generally felt that significant portion of that money should be put toward building the awards endowment after each conference. Building on the endowment will be an on going process that requires all TC members' attention and effort.

Medals were suggested instead of "Award certificates", Waive registration fee, + \$500 honorarium to help with travel. It was recognized that we may not be able to realize all of this for the first set of awards.

(Must look into generating medals).

4. ~8:20 PM: 2005 International Conference on Multibody Systems, Nonlinear Dynamics, and Control (2005 ICMSNDC) update given by K. Anderson (Report provided – Addendum B)
Professor Anderson suggested not using ASME Webtools for initial submission of papers due to prior difficulties and expense. Professor Sinha strongly suggests use of ASME Webtools for submission. Professor Anderson will find out specifics. It was felt that each symposium must be specifically listed as well as the Program Chair to receive papers which do not fit into current symposia.

Subsequently, discussion followed on management of vendor displays. One vendor (MSC Software) has thus far stated that they wish to have a booth at the conference. Registration form must list our

Conference. Professor Sinha stated that ASME not interested unless there will be at least 25 vendors (for entire IDETC). Otherwise, specific conference must manage vendors. Other plans were agreed to.

5. ~8:50 Best paper awards

N. Perkins

Professor Perkins discussed need for having an unified criteria for selecting *Best Papers*. Ideally, all symposia would adhere to a common set of goals and procedures. There are many possible ways to proceed. Examples given: Possibly each symposia have a best paper; Have each symposium organizer write down briefly how they propose selecting a best paper, and use this input to form common criteria: Reasonable number of “best paper” awards associated with the number of papers in the symposium; Selection based on Reviewer comments(?); Possibly have organizers nominate best papers from each symposium, but final decisions made on papers made by TC; Organizers not eligible; Give input to N. Perkins and W. Schiehlen.

“Outstanding Student paper awards” discussed. Award to be made to ~10% of student papers? The TC members in attendance unanimously expressed feeling that it would be better to have a “Student Paper” competition, and not “Best paper” awards for the more senior contributors. Initial rating of papers would be made by reviewers/symposium organizers. The symposium organizers would then nominate the best of these papers for “Outstanding Student Paper” recognition. This reduced set of student papers would then be invited to make special presentation to judges (the TC) the first day of conference. To be considered the students must be first author if there are multiple authors. The students must also make the presentations. A major portion of *Best Paper* selection is to be based on this presentation. Award is recognition at banquet and certificate.

6. ~9:10 PM Journal of Vibration and Acoustics

(a) Name change

S. Sinha

ASME Publication Committee did not approve the name change. Larry Bergman, Tech Editor of JVA was notified.

(b) Special Issue

A. Shabana

K. Anderson, H. Dankowicz, A. Shabana, and S. Sinha formed new sub committee to make pre-proposal on *new journal/special issue* based on prior conference results. Proposed journal content consisted of conference papers, review papers, and extended papers.

Professor Sinha indicated that ASME offers ASME journal “packages” to libraries, so this journal would be included in one or more of the packages, thus advertising for the new journal is not a problem. Further, it is hoped/expected that the conference receive ~160+ papers. The best third would provide 50+ papers for this journal. These papers could be sent out for added reviews, then be placed in this journal, possibly with additional survey articles of the type H. Dankowicz recommends. In this way the conferences and added papers could easily provide excellent, varied (all aspects of dynamics) articles for a quarterly journal.

It was feared that there are already too many journals using the words “Dynamics”, “Controls”, “Vibrations”, etc. *Multibody Systems* is already claimed by W. Schiehlen. Thus simply using the name “ASME Journal of Dynamics” was felt a good choice. It was generally felt that given the breadth offered (nonlinear dynamics, multibody systems, computational methods, vibrations, experimental work and applications, etc.) by the proposed journal, this journal would be truly a unique, and thus viable. However it was still felt that there is possibly too much competition.

Professor Dankowicz suggested inviting authors of the “Best” conference papers to submit 40-60 page survey papers (e.g. ASME Reviews model). Thus this journal would not be in conflict with the other Journals.

7. Sub-committee reports 9:40

(a) Conference Planning K. Anderson
See Conference update minutes given above and in Addendum-B.

(b) Member Nomination O. Bauchau & B. Balachandran
Seven candidates: Alain Berlioz, JinHwan Choi, Harry Dankowicz, Peter Eberhard, Tamas Kalmar-Nagy, John McPhee, and Christophe Pierre, were nominated for election to the Technical Committee. Professor Shabana informed the committee that his appointment as Chair will be ending in June 2005. One member, Marcello Campanelli has requested that he be removed from the committee. It was suggested that he remain on the committee until his term expires. It was further suggested by S. Sinha (and quickly agreed to by the others) that all seven candidates be elected, leaving the committee with 23 members. When one member leaves, this individual will not be replaced. The committee will then work to maintain roughly 18-20 members ideally with a 50/50 Nonlinear Dynamics/Multibody Systems balance. This idea was approved and all seven candidates were elected on a unanimous vote. New members begin term January 1, 2005.

Additionally, S. Sinha was elected to Technical Committee Chair, and K. Anderson was elected to Technical Committee Vice Chair by unanimous vote by members present. New positions take effect July 1, 2005.

(c) Publicity & Information O. Agrawal & Z.D. Ma
Very brief description of the conference web page was given by Professor Ma. Report provided in Addendum-C

(d) Awards W. Schiehlen & N. Perkins
Professor Perkins provided an oral discussion of the Awards Subcommittee report (Report provided – Addendum D). Professor Perkins indicated that nomination of two outstanding candidates had been received for both the D’Alembert and Lyapunov Awards (Ed Haug and Thomas Kane for the D’Alembert Award, with Phil Holmes and Ali Nayfeh for the Lyapunov Awards). Professor Perkins then reminded us that the complete nomination packages had been e-mailed to all TC members previously with the original intent that a vote on these awards would be performed at this meeting. In light of the importance of these awards, it was decided that these awards should be voted on by the full committee, not just the voting members present.

A procedure for distributing ballots, returning ballots, tracking who has vote while maintaining confidentiality of the vote, and the counting of ballots was presented by K. Anderson and agreed on by the members present (I believe that was there was no actual vote cast, just verbal approval here). Ballots and detail directions for the casting of votes will be sent out by the TC Secretary (K. Anderson) within the next few weeks. These ballots are to be returned to the Secretary by mid September. The resulting packet of ballots will be forwarded as a unit to S. Sinha who will take them to the ASME IMECE meeting in Anaheim, where the ballot envelopes will opened and the

votes counted with B. Balachandran. The results will then be reported to the Chair and subsequently Secretary of the TC.

An open discussion then followed on the merits of each nominee for each award. This involved the reading of a letter by W. Schiehlen, who could not attend, in which his views and his reasoning were made clear. The members in attendance generally agreed that the prestige of these awards will be established by reputation/quality of the recipients, and that all four candidates are outstanding and deserving. It was additionally generally felt that the open discussion on the relative credentials/merits of the nominees was helpful in their making a decision.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 10:30 PM.

Submitted by - Kurt S. Anderson