

# MINUTES

## TECHNICAL COMMITTEE ON ARCHITECTURAL ACOUSTICS (TCAA)

150th Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America

Thursday, 20 October 2005

7:30 PM

Minneapolis, MN

Chair: **Lily Wang**  
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Secretary: **Brandon Tinianov**  
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(Meeting minutes taken by: **Michelle Vigeant**)

1. Welcome and Introductions. The chair called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM. Members and guests attending the meeting were asked to sign an attendance list. Special recognition was given to students and to first-time meeting attendees.
2. Approval of Minutes. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as distributed.
3. Acknowledgements. The committee thanked the following for their work on the Minneapolis meeting – (a) General Chairs: **Peggy Nelson (ASA), Daniel J. Kato** and **Robert J. Bernhard (Noise-Con)**; (b) Technical Program Chairs: **Neal F. Viemeister (ASA), J. Stuart Bolton** and **Patricia Davies (Noise-Con)**; (c) TPOM Representatives: **David Braslau** and **Bruce Olson**; (d) Session Chairs: **Erica Bowden, David Braslau, Ilene Busch-Vishniac, Bob Coffeen, Trevor Cox, Peter D’Antonio, Tony Hoover, Mandy Kachur, Peter Mapp, David Marsh, Bruce C. Olson, James Phillips, Ken Roy, Jeff Szymanski, Nancy Timmerman, Kenric VanWyk, Jim West**; and (e) the Distinguished Lecturer, **Manfred Schroeder**. Also, thanks to all paper presenters.
4. Congratulations. Congratulations to (a) new ASA Fellows: **Wolfgang Ahnert, Samir Gerges, Peter Mapp**; (b) 2005 MacArthur Fellows: **Joseph Curtin** and **Emily Thompson**; and (c) the 2005 INCE Martin Hirschorn Award recipient: **Jonathan Rathsam**.
5. Chair’s Report on Technical Council Items.

The Executive Council is interested in learning about any ASA members affected by Hurricanes Katrina or Rita or the recent earthquakes.

A task force has been formed to work on updating the ASA website. Interested persons should contact the TCAA Chair. **Les Blomberg** indicated interest in this endeavor.

The ASA Education Committee, chaired by **Uwe Hansen**, is looking for volunteers to join the outreach effort at each ASA meeting to local high school science classes. If interested, please contact the TCAA Chair or Hansen directly at [u-hansen@indstate.edu](mailto:u-hansen@indstate.edu)

The Technical and Executive Councils are considering ‘no-show’ policies for ASA meeting papers. Currently about half of the no-shows are from the US and half from foreign countries. The TCAA membership generally supported having a no-show policy, particularly for authors who do not inform the society that they are not coming, prior to the meeting.

The ASA Panel on Public Policy is converting from an ad hoc to a standing committee. Members who would be interested in participating on behalf of TCAA should let the TCAA Chair know.

Comments were solicited from the TCAA membership on registration fees to ASA meetings. A large majority supported the idea of granting nonmember invited speakers one meeting day registration free and for the additional cost of a membership fee

(\$130), they can be registered for the whole meeting week (and also become a member.) For members in their early careers, reduced dues and registration fees were discussed. A large majority agreed that a 3-year ramp up would be reasonable. **Les Blomberg** suggested that there should be a criteria for the conference hotel that a cheaper hotel (\$70-80) be within 10-15 blocks. **Erica Bowden** commented that the ASA Student Council does provide a cheaper hotel listing.

The Executive Council is interested to hear from its members about whether or not the ASA as a society should be more active, rather than reactive, on educating the public on the role of science. After much discussion on this issue, a vote was taken to determine the general consensus. The ASA should be (a) Active: 19 votes; (b) Reactive: 9 votes; and (c) Not Sure/Gray Area: 19 votes. One common feeling was that the ASA should focus its energy on science and acoustics issues, and be certain not to make any comments related to political issues.

Feedback on the first issue of the popular acoustics magazine "Acoustics Today" was positive. Congratulations were offered to **Tony Hoover** for his role as an associate editor of the publication.

Comments were solicited on the current meeting in Minneapolis. **Tony Hoover** commented that is one of the best conference facilities we've had in a long time, with quiet rooms and projectors. Many felt that the public address systems were very good. **David Conant** requested that more control was needed for the lighting in each room, particularly for those formed from partitions in the ballrooms.

#### 6. ASA Committee Reports.

*Medals and Awards* (**Red Wetherill**) – TCAA is due for a nomination of a Silver Medal Award recipient. Please submit the names of proposed nominees to **Red Wetherill** at [redwetherill@sbcglobal.net](mailto:redwetherill@sbcglobal.net).

*Membership* (**Greg Tocci**) – It is important to continue nominating TCAA members for Fellowship in the society. Nomination packets consist of one nomination letter plus two letters of support; two of the three letters must come from ASA Fellows. **Greg Tocci** is available to help structure any nomination letters, if necessary.

*Standards* (**George Winzer**) – Four industry partners have agreed to sponsor the S12.60-2002 Standard on Classroom Acoustics, so that it may be distributed free to interested persons: Armstrong Ceiling Systems, illbruck Architectural Products, Trane, and Owens Corning. A round of applause was given to these partners. **Paul Schomer** reported that there had already been approximately 800 free downloads of the Classroom Acoustics Standard, mostly from architects and schools. **Bob Hellweg** announced that those interested in obtaining a copy of the new draft of S12.2 on Room Noise Criteria could purchase one from the Standards group.

*Student Council* (**David T. Bradley**) – **David T. Bradley** reported a successful student reception and student outing at this conference. Two major activities are currently being undertaken: (1) formations of new student chapters and (2) a grants/fellowships workshop at the next conference in Providence. Providence will be the last meeting at which Bradley will be the TCAA student representative, so applications will soon be accepted for the next one. The student must serve a 2-year term and attend all ASA meetings during that time. Application materials will be available in spring 2006. Comments were solicited on establishing conference fees for students, such as a \$25 pre-registration fee and \$50 on-site registration fee which could add perceived value to the conferences. After much discussion, a vote was taken on the popular choices: (a) Students attend free: 25; (b) Students pay small registration fee: 20; (c) Abstaining: 2. Other comments included the following. **Tyrone Porter** suggested that students could commit to doing some service at the meeting as a form of payment. **Wolfgang Ahnert**

suggested that the society could save money by having less food, as is the case with many European conferences.

*JASA/ARLO* (**Mendel Kleiner** and **Ning Xiang**) – ARLO is being transitioned to JASA-EL (Express Letters). The hope is that JASA-EL will have a high level of prestige, fast review turnaround (4-6 weeks), and a flat \$300 submission fee. TCAA members were polled on how much they are using the JASA CD's they receive every two months. Approximately 1/3<sup>rd</sup> say they open the CD's, while another 1/3<sup>rd</sup> say they do not. One-third also indicated that they use the online version of the journal. **Ning Xiang** encouraged people to volunteer to review JASA papers in a timely manner, and thanked everyone who helps in the process. He has received 30 manuscripts, and approximately 11 have been accepted and 9 rejected. Xiang also informed us that JASA has a section for applied papers; these are peer-reviewed but have different review criteria. He encourages consulting work in architectural acoustics to be submitted as applied papers.

*Books* – **Damian Doria** reported that a publisher is looking into republishing the Cremer, Muller, Schultz books.

7. TCAA Subcommittee Reports.

*Newman Student Award Fund* (**Bill Cavanaugh/Carl Rosenberg**) – **Bill Cavanaugh** reported that this committee continues to be active in sponsoring the following programs: (1) Newman Student Award Medals, (2) Student Design Competition, and (3) Schultz Grant for Educational Materials. Two Newman medalists present at the meeting were recognized: **Pamela Harght** and **Lauren Ronsse**. The program for the next Student Design Competition, to be judged in Providence, is being developed by **Bob Coffeen**, **Norm Phillipp** and **Byron Harrison**. Thanks were given to the Wenger Foundation for its support of this competition. The Committee continues to look for corporate sponsorship and encourages TCAA members to become liaisons to local schools/universities.

*Concert Hall Research Group* (**Bill Dohn**) – The next CHRG Summer Institute is planned for August 14-18, 2006 in Aspen, coinciding with the Aspen Music Festival. More information will be sent to TCAA members in spring 2006.

*Classroom Acoustics* (**David Lubman**) – **David Lubman** reported that progress is being made on this initiative, but there is still a long way to go. There is an effort to influence the LA school district; also ASA is considering becoming a member of the Collaborative for High Performance Schools (CHPS). Many want to use classroom amplification rather than meet the 35 dBA background noise levels, but **Lou Sutherland** and Lubman have made PowerPoint presentation adamantly against this suggestion. **Lily Wang** reported that there still is a plan to create a CD compilation of the presentations from the Topical Meeting in Classroom Acoustics in Vancouver; some issues concerning authors' releases of their material were being worked through.

*Subcommittee on University/Consultant Partnerships for Research* (**Paul Calamia**) – **Paul Calamia** reminded the TCAA membership that this subcommittee is meant to be a clearinghouse to suggest research problems that students at universities could help to solve, as well as to help funnel any available money companies would be willing to use to fund projects. Unfortunately no one has contributed or given feedback in over three years, so if not much more happens in the upcoming year, Calamia suggests that we consider disbanding it. Other TCAA members indicated that they hadn't heard about this subcommittee, and that there could be more advertising of its activities, such as in INCE publications.

*Acoustics Product Safety Working Group* (**Nancy Timmerman**) – **Nancy Timmerman** reported that the special session at this conference was well attended and well-received.

**Tom Fritz** of Armstrong has offered to conduct education seminars, if TCAA is interested in that as a follow-up to this session. **Dick Godfrey** noted that Owens-Corning's paper would be available on the web.

*Acoustic Data Working Group (Ken Roy)* – **Ken Roy** stated that he knows the output of the group will be very useful for consultants, but the project has been on hiatus and hopes to be jumpstarted again by the end of 2005.

*Another Two Decades of Drama Theaters (Robin Glosemeyer/Greg Miller)* – **Rick Talaske** reported that the book has received informal approval by the Executive Council, but they asked for information on projected sales, which **Greg Miller** provided as best he could. TCAA will urge Executive Council to approve this book.

*Joint Sub-Committee on Speech Privacy (Greg Tocci)*– **Ken Roy** reported that the subcommittee is asking standards S12 to institute a working group. The intent is to have a guideline for speech privacy aimed primarily for health care. There is interest to start on standards for a subset of other spaces as well.

*TCAA Student Paper Award (Brandon Tinianov)*– **Brad Gover** reported that the TCAA Student Paper Awards for papers presented at the Minneapolis conference were awarded to **David T. Bradley** (1<sup>st</sup> place, \$300) and **Erica Bowden** (2<sup>nd</sup> place, \$200), both from the University of Nebraska. Many thanks to all of the judges and students who participated.

#### 8. Planning of Future Meetings.

*Providence, June 5-9, 2006*

- The Technical Program Organizing Meeting (TPOM) is planned for February 10-11, 2006. **Alex Case** and **Damian Doria** volunteered to be TCAA representatives to the TPOM.
- The following TCAA Special Sessions were approved by the membership present:
  - Acoustics of Libraries (**Ben Markham**)
  - Acoustics of Multi-family Housing/Litigation (**Gary Siebein**)
  - Composed Spaces (**Alex Case**), a session involved with the realization of space with new composition. There will be a loudspeaker concert that will run all day. Preceding session will have composers talk about their compositions.
  - Microperforated Materials (**Christian Nocke, Ning Xiang**)
  - Poster Session on “Worship Spaces” (**Rosemary Su, Adam Foxwell**)
  - Special Session in Honor of John Kopec (**Dave Moyer**)
  - Student Design Competition (**Bob Coffeen, Norm Phillipp, Byron Harrison**)
  - Surround Sound (**Alex Case, Tony Hoover**), on designing spaces for use with loudspeakers systems. This session will potentially interest people from AES.
- Other jointly-sponsored sessions with Noise and other committees include:
  - Speech Privacy
  - Theory of Measurement and Design of Soundscapes
  - HVAC Noise Control
  - Noise Control Education Materials

*Hawaii, Nov. 28 – Dec. 2, 2006 (Tues. – Sat., joint with Acoustical Society of Japan (ASJ), followed by INCE/Internoise)*

- Over the past few months, much effort has gone into working with the ASJ Chair of Program Committee: **Yoiti Suzuki**; Secretary of Program Committee: **Hiroshi**

**Sato**; and the ASJ-TCAA Chair: **Toru Otsuru**, to finalize a special session program to which both groups feel they would be able to contribute equally. Each special session has a co-chair from ASA and from ASJ.

- The following AA Special Sessions were approved by the membership present:
  - Acoustic Design for Green Buildings (**Ken Roy, Tetsuya Sakuma** from Tokyo University)
  - Acoustics of Large Indoor and Outdoor Performance Spaces (**Daniel Raichel, Toshiki Hanyu** from Nihon University)
  - Computer Modeling of Room Acoustics (**Lily Wang, Shin-ichi Sakamoto** from Tokyo University)
  - Special Session in Honor of Manfred Schroeder (80<sup>th</sup> Birthday) (**Ning Xiang, Juergen Schroeter, Akira Omoto** from Kyushu University)... joint with several other committees
  - Psychological Aspects of Sound Environment in Rooms (**Hiroshi Sato** from the Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology, **John Bradley**)... joint with Speech and P&P
  - Recent Developments in Acoustical Materials and Structures (**Kimihiko Sakagami** from Kobe University)... topics to include numerical study, measurement and practical installation technique for sound insulation and absorption. An ASA representative is requested. **Brandon Tinianov** and **Dick Godfrey** are interested in co-chairing.
  - Measurement of Room Acoustics (**Fumiaki Satoh** from Chiba Institute of Technology, **Boaz Rafaely**)
- It is not possible to add anymore special sessions to the ASA/ASJ Hawaii meeting. Members of the Subcommittee on Speech Privacy were interested in proposing a special session for Hawaii, but they will try to add it to the INCE/Internoise schedule instead.

*Salt Lake City, June 4-8, 2007*

- **Tim Leishman** is the Technical Program Chair of this conference. He encouraged TCAA to consider having tours and sessions that may go along with the tours. Suggested ones may be a technical tour of the Latter Day Saints Conference Center, or the Mormon Tabernacle. Other ideas he had for special sessions include: Troubleshooting in acoustics; Interactions of sound systems in rooms; Effects of rooms on organs; Characterizing sound in rooms through measurements; Specialized room acoustics measurements (out of the ordinary).
- Other TCAA members suggested the following special sessions:
  - Acoustics of open-plan of single family residences (**Dick Godfrey**)
  - In situ measurements of absorption coefficients (**Peter D'Antonio**)
  - Low frequency absorption (**Peter D'Antonio**)
  - Speech Privacy (if not in Hawaii)
  - University of Utah Libby Garner Hall Tour (**David Conant**)
  - Special Session in Honor of John Kopec... **Bill Cavanaugh** suggested moving this session to Salt Lake City, to have a laboratory session in conjunction with it. There were no objections to this move [*but the TCAA Chair unfortunately forgot about this comment, and so the session is going forward in Providence! My apologies - LMW*]
  - Invited lecture by Emily Thompson, MacArthur Fellow (**Lily Wang**)
  - Poster session with NCAC (**Ed Logsdon**)
  - Footfall noise (**David Braslau**)

- Other possible special sessions moved from prior conferences include:
  - Design of Spaces for Music Therapy and Healing (**Elizabeth Cohen**)
  - Impact of Acoustics (Cross-Modality Effects) on Perception of Ensemble, joint with Music and P&P (**Elizabeth Cohen**)
  - Special Session in Honor of Bob Gales ...As reported by **David Lubman** who did an AIP History on **Bob Gales**, Gales was a former President of the ASA and very influential in Speech and involved with developing hearing protection around WWII.

*New Orleans*, Fall 2007 (Tues-Sat)

- This conference is still being planned.

*Paris* (joint with EAA), July 2008

- The last day of the meeting will be July 4<sup>th</sup>.

*Fall/Winter 2008 meeting location* is open. If anyone in a warm locale would like to chair a meeting, please let Executive Council know.

ASA was requested to consider having a *joint meeting with ICA* on August 23-27, 2010 in Sydney. The TCAA membership did not feel in favor of this joint meeting, since the dates were not negotiable and the schedule would not work well for those who teach or have kids.

As for having a *joint meeting with AES*, currently the AES is not interested in pursuing this idea.

9. Technical Initiatives – 2005 Reports and 2006 Renewals/New Ideas.

Requests for funding the technical initiatives listed below were approved by the TCAA membership present.

*Webpage Maintenance* (preapproved, \$300) – **Les Blomberg** will submit for reimbursement soon.

*Invited Speaker Travel Funds* (preapproved, \$1500) – **Lily Wang** reported that these 2005 funds were used to help invited speakers attend the Topical Meeting in Classroom Acoustics, Indoor Noise Criteria session, and Safety of Acoustical Products session. Session organizers who would like to request some of these funds for invited speakers in 2006 should contact the TCAA Chair.

*Student Paper Awards* (preapproved, \$1000) – \$500 for Providence and \$500 for Hawaii  
*AIA Certification for Continuing Education* (\$500 for 2005, \$500 for 2006) – **Tony Hoover** has almost finished this package that TCAA can use to offer continuing education credits to architects. It will hopefully be finished by December 2005 and submitted shortly to AIA. This will be resubmitted for 2006.

*Outreach for Classroom Acoustics* (\$2000 for 2005, \$2000 for 2006) – Plans for the 2005 funds are to pay membership fee to join CHPS and to support a mass mailing by Noise Pollution Clearinghouse. **Lou Sutherland** reported that there is strong interest in creating classroom acoustics virtual-reality demonstration programs that can be presented to architects so that they can clearly understand good and bad classroom acoustics, hopefully with 2006 Technical Initiative funds. **Felicia Doggett** commented that other organizations like the American Audiology Association (AAA) work more directly in schools, but don't know about the standards. Doggett suggests targeting organizations like AAA who are in the schools.

*Classroom Acoustics II Booklet* (\$1000 for 2005) – The plan is to purchase enough booklets to make back the initial printing costs, and then have this second booklet be free and available as a PDF download. **Ralph Muehleisen** and **Lily Wang** will follow up with **Elaine Moran**.

*Lesson Plans for Education in Acoustics* (\$1000 for 2005, \$1000 for 2006) – The original intent behind this Technical Initiative was to create some material which would teach young students about acoustics, but not much has resulted from it yet. **Rick Talaske** commented that he wonders if a video or some sort of visual tool would be more effective. **Tyrone Hunter** expressed interest in creating these plans, perhaps in collaboration with **Uwe Hansen**.

*Move-In and A/V Support for Special Session on Composed Spaces* (\$1000 for 2006) – This initiative was proposed by **Alex Case** to help cover the costs of transporting, setting-up, and securing equipment for the special sessions on Composed Spaces and Surround Sound planned for Providence.

10. New Business.

**Ralph Muehleisen** proposed that a *Subcommittee on Green Building Acoustics* be formed. Many expressed support in trying to have acoustics be more highly represented in the green building process, including **Bennett Brooks**, **Bob Coffeen** and **Kenny Good**. This was approved by the TCAA membership, with **Ralph Muehleisen** as chair. **Rick Talaske** suggested that we may consider hiring someone in Washington to keep up on political policies related to AA.

11. Adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 9:45 PM.