

MINUTES OF THE  
SATELLITE DIVISION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING  
(September 20, 2019)

Subject to the approval of the ION Satellite Division Executive Committee, the following minutes are submitted. The Satellite Division Executive Committee Meeting was called to order on September 20, 2019 at Truluck's Restaurant, Miami, Florida at 6:30 p.m. Those present were:

VOTING MEMBERS:

Chris Hegarty	Chair
Jason Rife	Treasurer
Tim Murphy	Secretary, ION GNSS+ 2019 Program Co-chair
Allison Kealy	Pacific Technical Advisor, ION GNSS+ Publications Co-chair
José-Ángel Ávila-Rodríguez	European Technical Advisor
Frank van Diggelen	Immediate Past Chair
Y. Jade Morton	ION President

NON-VOTING PARTICIPANTS:

Heidi Kuusniemi	ION GNSS+ 2019 Program Co-chair
John Raquet	ION GNSS+ 2019 Tutorials Chair
Terry Moore	ION GNSS+ 2019 Publications Co-chair
Jihye Park	ION GNSS+ 2019 Publications Co-chair
Di Qiu	ION GNSS+ 2020 Program Co-chair (Commercial)
Andre Hauschild	ION GNSS+ Program Co-chair (Research)
Lisa Beaty	ION Executive Director

**AGENDA**

1. Record Approval of the September 2018 Minutes by Email
2. Document Motions Approved by Email Since the Last Meeting
3. Awards Policy Clarifications: L. Beaty
4. Outreach Activity Status, Autonomous Snowplow Competition: S. Sheikh
5. Outreach Activity Status, Africa Program: P. Doherty
6. Lessons Learned 2019 Tutorial Program & Recommendations for 2020: J. Raquet
7. Lessons Learned 2019 Technical Program & Recommendations for 2020
  - Research Tracks: H. Kuusniemi
  - Commercial and Policy Tracks: T. Murphy
  - Peer Review Process: T. Moore, A. Kealy, J. Park
8. Approval of ION GNSS+ 2020 Program Co-Chairs: C. Hegarty
9. Other/New Business

Record Approval of the September 2018 Minutes by Email

**Motion: Minutes from the September 28, 2018 meeting of the Satellite Division Executive Committee were approved by email vote.** The motion passed by email vote in October 2018.

Document Motions Approved by Email Since the Last Meeting

**Motion: The Satellite Division Executive Committee approves the following 2019 Awards Chairs: Dr. Dorota Grejner-Brzezinska as Kepler Committee Chair and Dr. Chris Bartone as the Parkinson Committee Chair.** The motion passed by email vote in July 2019.

Subsequent to the above motion, and per the awards policy and per the authority granted in the Satellite Division bylaws, Chris Hegarty, Satellite Division Chair approved the following to serve on the Satellite Division Award Committees:

Kepler Awards Committee: Dorota Grejner-Brzezinska (Chair)  
Terry Moore  
Michael Meurer  
Gary McGraw

Parkinson Awards Committee: Chris Bartone (Chair)  
Juan Blanch  
John Raquet  
Irma Rodriguez Perez  
Jason Gross  
Taro Suzuki

Awards Policy Clarifications: L. Beaty

See Attached Document: [Sat Div Awards Policy Proposed 9-20-19](#)

Lisa Beaty reported that ION Council had updated the ION Awards Policy document earlier in the week and it was optimal to keep the language and criteria consistent. Beaty circulated a copy of the Satellite Division Awards Policy document with recommended language modifications clarifying:

- 1) A total of three references would be accepted with each nomination. The original nomination would serve as one reference; and no more than two additional letters of reference would accompany the nomination.
- 2) Only a current membership is required for a Parkinson nominee (not a two-year pre-existing membership as required for the Kepler).
- 3) Additional minor typos and grammatical errors were corrected.

Beaty reported the 2019 Parkinson Committee had asked the Satellite Division Executive Committee to review the existing Parkinson Award criteria. The current Parkinson Award regulations (Section 6.2, parts A-B, of the Satellite Division Awards Policies and Procedures) define the Parkinson award as follows:

- A. This award, which honors Dr. Parkinson for his leadership in establishing both the U.S. Global Positioning System and the Satellite Division of the ION, recognizes an outstanding graduate student in the field of **Global Navigation Satellite Systems (GNSS)**.
- B. Any graduate student who is a member of the ION and is completing a degree program with an emphasis in **GNSS** technology, applications, or policy is eligible for the award. Educational institutions, associations, groups of individuals and previous winners are not eligible for consideration.

It was discussed that the community is seeing work beyond satellite navigation. Frank van Diggelen was given the action to discuss the scope of the award with Dr. Parkinson and determine if he would be opposed to broadening the award beyond GNSS to recognize the best thesis in "PNT".

**Action:** Frank van Diggelen will to discuss the scope of the Parkinson Award criteria with Dr. Parkinson and determine if he would be opposed to broadening the award beyond GNSS to recognize the best thesis in "PNT". Any resulting recommendations will be handled with the Satellite Executive Committee via email.

*Postscript:*

*Van Diggelen corresponded with Dr. Parkinson and reported that Dr. Parkinson was in favor of broadening the scope of the Parkinson Award beyond GNSS to recognize the best thesis in PNT.*

*The following motion was sent to the Satellite Division Executive Committee to vote via email on October 8, 2019:*

***Motion:*** It is proposed that section 6.2, parts A-B, of the Satellite Division Awards Policies and Procedures redefine the Parkinson Award as follows:

- A. This award, which honors Dr. Parkinson for his leadership in establishing both the U.S. Global Positioning System and the Satellite Division of the ION, recognizes an outstanding graduate student in the field of Positioning, Navigation and/or Timing (PNT).***
- B. Any graduate student who is a member of the ION and is completing a degree program with an emphasis in PNT technology, applications, or policy is eligible for the award. Educational institutions, associations,***

*groups of individuals and previous winners are not eligible for consideration.*

*The motion was passed by email vote of Satellite Division officers in October 2019.*

*See Attached File: [Sat Div Awards Policy Approved Oct 2019](#)*

Outreach Activity Status, Autonomous Snowplow Competition: S. Sheikh

Lisa Beaty reported that the North Star Section was in the process of turning over the Snowplow Competition to Dunwoody College to manage. The 2020 competition would be a year of transition where North Star Section members would assist them with program management and corporate sponsorship etc. but the university would take over the competition going forward.

Beaty reported that she had advised Suneel Sheikh, the Competition's founder and leader, that the university would need to assume the liability going forward and ION's role would become like any other sponsor.

Beaty asked the Division if they were willing to make a financial contribution to the 2020 competition and recommended \$5,000.

**Motion: The Satellite Division approves a donation of \$5,000 to the Autonomous Snowplow Competition, hosted and sponsored by Dunwoody Technical College.** Motion made by Tim Murphy, seconded by Y. Jade Morton and passed by the Committee.

Outreach Activity Status, Africa Program: P. Doherty

See Attached File: [Africa Outreach Update Sept 2019](#)

It was reported that in September 2017 the Division had approved \$25,000 per year, for the next three years, for the reimbursement of instructor travel funding for the Africa program (\$25K per year each for 2018, 2019 and 2020).

It was reported that the 11th ICTP/Boston College Africa Workshop was held May 27-31, 2019 in Trieste, Italy at The Abdus Salam ICTP. It was reported that this past year, students were coming from more parts of the world, and they were now being funded by their organizations.

It was reported the next workshop, working with Sharafar Gadimova, United Nations, would be October 5-20, 2020 in Morocco. Additionally, it was reported that Chris Hegarty and Y. Jade Morton had approved travel for Lisa Beaty to participate in the workshop in 2020.

Terry Moore asked why the Division referred to the program as the "Africa Program" since the

program was serving many developing nations and suggested it be referred to as “Operations in Developing Nations”. It was suggested that the intent was originally to hold the workshops in Africa but due to expense and political instability, this had been harder than originally anticipated.

#### Lessons Learned 2019 Tutorial Program & Recommendations for 2020: J. Raquet

John Raquet, 2019 Tutorials Chair, reviewed the tutorials and masters’ programs from 2019. It was noted that tutorial attendance and participation remained level in 2019 when compared to 2018, even though registration was down 7%, so proportionately tutorial/masters course attendance was up. The fact that people are arriving earlier and spending the entire week at the conference was discussed.

Raquet agreed to serve as Tutorials Chair again in 2020.

#### Lessons Learned 2019 Technical Program & Recommendations for 2020

Heidi Kuusniemi reviewed the Research Tracks and Tim Murphy reviewed the Commercial and Policy Tracks.

- There was consensus that the panels continue to be very popular. There was sentiment that the panels needed to allow more time to discuss debate and respond to questions and less time for formal presentations. If the session time was going to be used for formal presentations, the session should be advertised as “invited speaker session” and not as a “panel session”. It was suggested that more guidance needed to be given to the panel chairs in both the running of a panel session and directing them to prepare questions for all panelists in advance. Van Diggelen suggested a skeleton outline of a typical panel session be prepared and provided to panel chairs.

**Action: Provide guidelines for Panel Chairs prior to chairs organizing their panels.**

- There was some displeasure over occasions where papers were presented at the conference, but then excluded from the proceedings. In these cases, the author wanted to present at ION GNSS+, but publish in another organization’s journal. Beaty noted the only way to correct this was to bring *NAVIGATION*’s impact factor up so that this would no longer be an issue.
- It was noted there were more cancellations this year than last year, and some alternates did not show up – or in one case did show up but were not prepared to present. It was noted the committee felt much of this was due to visa issues this year.

There was considerable discussion centered on the peer review process and the fact that 90% of the papers submitted for peer review this year passed the two required peer reviews. The

consensus of the committee (T. Moore, A. Kealy and J. Park) was that this was too high and peer reviews were generally too soft.

**Action: The ION Peer Review Committee is to review the current peer review process and instructions and propose and recommended changes.**

Approval of ION GNSS+ 2020 Program Co-chairs: C. Hegarty

Motion: The Satellite Division approves the following ION GNSS+ 2020 Program Co-chairs: Dr. Di Qiu to oversee the Commercial and Policy tracks, Dr. Andre Hauschild to oversee the Research Tracks and Dr. John Raquet shall oversee the tutorial program. Patricia Doherty, Satellite Division Vice Chair, shall have primary responsibility for the plenary session and Dr. Frank van Diggelen, Immediate Past Satellite Division Chair, shall lead the selection of the sponsored student program. Dr. Terry Moore, Dr. Allison Kealy and Dr. Jihye Park shall serve on the Peer Review Committee and supervise/referee the peer review process. Motion made by Y. Jade Morton, seconded by Frank van Diggelen and passed by the Satellite Division Executive Committee.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Proposed Graduate Student Event at ION GNSS+

Lisa Beaty reported that Sunil Bisnath, ION Technical Rep, had proposed that ION sponsor a graduate student event during ION GNSS+ conference. Beaty reported that Bisnath's goals for such an event might include networking between graduate students; mentoring by industry; networking between industry and graduate students; job fair; etc. Beaty pointed out that the largest obstacle to hosting such an event was an available block of time that was not already committed to other conference functions.

Proposal for Thursday Evening Event Appealing to 30-40 Year Demographic

Beaty reported that ION was actively working to attract and retain young participants within the ION community and as such she would like to add a social/networking event Thursday evening targeting this demographic. Beaty suggested that while this social event might not accomplish all of Bisnath's aspirational goals for a graduate student-networking event, it would provide a social forum in which this demographic could network and interact in a social and memorable way. Beaty suggested she was thinking of something interactive, along the lines of a scavenger hunt. The activity would be performed in teams and blend navigational challenges with attractions specific to the local destination.

Concern was expressed about competition with other activities taking place Thursday evening. Beaty suggested the other events were a different demographic than who she was targeting,

not all events needed to appeal to everyone equally, and this event would be designed with a demographic of 30-40 year olds in mind.

After discussion, the group agreed to allow Beaty to organize and format the activity within the scope of the 2020 meeting with the target demographic in mind.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.