

**Minutes of the Business Meeting of the SIAM Activity Group on Imaging
Science
San Diego, CA
July 7, 2008**

The meeting commenced at 7:07 PM, with Luminita Vese, SIAG/IS Chair, presiding. Also representing the SIAG were Stacey Levine, Program Director, and Rick Chartrand, Secretary.

Attendance, not counting the officers or those milling about the bar service at the back of the room (or both), started around 13 and grew to about 20.

The meeting began with a presentation by Luminita concerning some statistics and recent history of the SIAG. This presentation will be made available at the SIAG website (http://siags.siam.org/siagis/ISannual/SIAG_IS_7_6_08_report_working.pdf/).

The first point of discussion was the large number of parallel talks (roughly nine for this conference). Nearly everyone reported missing talks solely due to scheduling. It was pointed out that having sessions scheduled on opposite sides of the Town and Country grounds exacerbated the problem. Most felt that returning to a schedule like that of IS06, where there were 3 minisymposium blocks per day instead of 2, would be better. Margaret Cheney, Organizing Committee co-Chair for IS08, advocated extending the "10 minutes + poster" format, used at IS08 for contributed paper sessions, be extended to the minisymposia. A consensus seemed to form around the notion of having this be an option for MS organizers, which would alleviate scheduling issues if it were to catch on. This was seen as better than extending the conference. Also raised was something closer to an IEEE format, where contributions are submitted and relatively few chosen for oral presentations, with the rest (or the rest of those accepted) being presented as posters. A result is that the poster sessions are considered a fundamental part of the meeting, and not being of low prestige. It was suggested that one could include a laptop with the poster presentation.

Another discussion concerned the location, timing, and content of IS10. Many seemed to agree that the DC area would foster participation by government agencies, tempered by the high cost of the DC area. The notion of a meeting in Europe was seen as complicated for reasons of cost, the different academic calendar, and foreign travel being difficult for government employees, this also being a problem for a meeting in Canada. As for timing, July is difficult due to the organizational burden of the SIAM annual meeting. IS06 and IS04 were in May. No consensus appeared to be reached. Several felt that it would be valuable to solicit participation from areas not well represented at IS, such as astronomy, computer vision, or generally those who have real data challenges. Another question was whether to have a published proceedings, as in IEEE and other activity groups. This creates a large reviewing workload. It was felt that the Program Managers panel should be held later in the meeting, and be followed by a reception that would allow for greater interaction.

A suggestion all felt was useful was that speakers be asked for their slides, in order that they be posted on a SIAM website. This will be followed up upon.

Other suggestions included the idea of a prize for the best imaging paper to appear in a journal, as chosen by a committee from among nominations. Making this be for young researchers was thought to be more valuable. Another was to have an edited publication instead of the e-mail newsletter. No consensus appeared to emerge regarding these suggestions.

The meeting concluded at 7:51.

Rick Chartrand, Secretary