



Report on the Business Meetings of

Commission F

during the

**XXXth URSI General Assembly and
Scientific Symposium**

Istanbul, Turkey, August 13-20, 2011

**Roger Lang
(lang@gwu.edu)**

**Current Commission Chair (Incoming Chair during the
Business Meetings)**

**Days of the Business Meetings
Monday, Wednesday and Friday
All starting at 5:20pm**

Venue: Commission Conference Room

URSI Commission F Minutes of the Meetings

URSI GA 13-20 August 2011, Istanbul, Turkey

Meeting A: 17:20 Monday, Aug. 15,2011

Meeting B: 17:20 Wednesday, Aug 17, 2011

Meeting C: 17:20 Friday, August 19, 2011

Topic 1: Acceptance of Agenda and Report by the Commission Chair.

Action: The agenda was accepted. Commission chair summarized the highlights of commission-F activities during the reporting period.

Topic 2: Verification of credentials

Action: The credentials of the voting members were verified.

Topic 3: Election of Vice Chair for the Triennium 2011-2014

Action: Commission-F elected its new incoming vice-chair. The vice-chair elect was Dr. Simonetta Paloscia, Italy. The results of the balloting were:

Total number of ballots cast: 16

<u>Candidates</u>	<u>Totals points scored</u>
Animesh Maitra (India)	8
Cesar Amaya (Canada)	14
Simonetta Paloscia (Italy)	24

- Simonetta Paloscia (Italy) was thus elected as the in-coming vice-chair for the next triennium.
- Cesar Amaya (Canada) is the runner-up

Bertram Arbesser-Rastburg (Commission-F, Benelux) kindly counted, tallied and verified the votes.

Andreas Danklmayer (observer participant, Germany) served as a witness and assisted with the election procedure.

Topic 4: Postmortem of the 2011 GASS Program

Action: Should invited papers be labeled as ‘invited’ papers in the conference program.

Action taken: The issue was put to discussion. The consensus of opinion may be summarized as follows: Invited papers should be marked ‘invited’. Room should, however, be left for regularly contributed papers

Topic 5: Consider the request from Coordinating Committee and Council to form working groups with the possibility (i.e. option) of writing white papers or working documents:

Action taken:

Internal commission-F working groups:

- Next-generation radar remote sensing [A council-Action from the last triennial to be continued into the next triennium (2011-2014)]
 - Conveners: Jean Isnard, Wolfgang Keydel, Emile Schweicher, and Madhu Chandra

New suggestions under discussion (the named ‘working-group conveners’ are, in the first instance, commission experts who will advise and assist the commission chairs in planning, or carrying-out, scientific activities in the indicated areas):

- Next generation passive microwave remote sensing
 - Conveners: Paolo Pampaloni
- Millimeter-wave to THz propagation
 - Conveners: Thomas Kürner
- Radio propagation, channel modeling and measurements associated with portable and mobile communications
 - Conveners: Robert Bultitude

Intended or Possible Audiences: Policy makers, Funding agencies in various countries/unions, and ITU

Inter-Commission Working groups

- Working group for coordinating or liaising joint activities between commissions F and C
 - Convener: Robert Bultitude
- Working group for coordinating or liaising joint activities between commissions F and G
 - Convener: Francois Lefevre

Topic 6: Discussion about the Radio Science Bulletin.

Action:

- (1) The new incoming vice-chair, Simonetta Paloscia, in keeping with URSI tradition, was named the next editor and facilitator for Commission-F contributions to the Radio Science Bulletin.
- (2) In the next triennium, the vice-chair elect together with Prof. Lang (the in-coming chair) will seek contributions from: (i) Dr. Stefan Bueckreuss (DLR, Germany), who will give the commission-F tutorial lecture on Tandem-X; (ii) Prof. P. Pampaloni (commission-F, Italy) on the topic of passive remote sensing; (iii) Dr. Robert Bultitude (Canada), in cooperation with the joint working group, will consider submitting a tutorial paper on mobile and portable radio propagation research, channel modeling, and radio propagation measurements.

Topic 7: : Interlinking of Commission-F with ITU, ISPRS, IEICE and IEEE Societies

Action taken: The commission discussed the issue and the results are summarized below:

Organization	Persons identified for liaising or promoting links to URSI Commission-F
ITU	Dr. Bertram Arbesser-Rastburg, Prof. Carlo Capsoni
ISPRS	Prof. Francois Lefeuvre, Prof. Tullio Tanzi
IEEE GRSS	Prof. Steven Reising, Dr. David LeVine, Prof. Animesh Maitra
IEEE AP-S, VT-S	Prof. Thomas Kürner
IEICE (Japan)	Prof. Takada

Topic 8: Discussion of terms of reference (B).

Commission F comprises two closely related fields, wave propagation and remote sensing and, based on the Terms of Reference updated at the 2005 General Assembly, encourages research in these fields at all frequencies, in particular, the Commission encourages :

- (a) The study of all frequencies in a non-ionized environment :
 - (i) wave propagation through planetary, neutral atmospheres and surfaces;
 - (ii) wave interaction with the planetary atmospheres, surfaces (including land, ocean and ice), and subsurfaces;
 - (iii) characterization of the environment as it affects wave phenomena;
- (b) The application of the results of these studies, particularly in the areas of remote sensing and communications;
- (c) The appropriate co-operation with other URSI Commissions and other relevant organizations.

Action: No change was deemed necessary.

Topic 9: Anticipated inter-assembly meetings

Action: **Type A meetings**

MicroRad 2012 in Frascati, Italy

MicroRad 2014 (TBD)

COSPAR 2012 in Mysore, India

IGARSS 2012 in Munich, Germany

IGARSS 2013 in Melbourne, Australia

IGARSS 2014 in Quebec City, Canada

ISAP 2012 (also 2013 and 2014)

EuSAR 2012 in Nuremberg, Germany, April 24-26,2012

International Radar Conference 2012 on October 22-25, 2012 in Glasgow, UK

International Radar Conference 2014 in France

ANTEM 2012 in Toulouse, France

APS/USNC URSI Symposium in Chicago USA July 7-13, 2012

**National Conference on Radiocommunication on May 14-16, 2012 at
Gdansk University of Technology, Poland
EuCAP 2012 in Prague, Czech Republic, on 26-30 March 2012.**

Type B meetings

**Triennial Commission F Open Symposium in Ottawa, Canada, Spring
2013**

**Commission F Specialist Meeting on Remote Sensing / Microwave
Signatures in Helsinki, Finland, Fall 2013**

**AP-RASC 2013 in Taipei, China (SRS) (in addition for sponsorship “A”)
Climm’Diff**

Topic 10: Proposed meetings for next triennium

Action:

◦ **Triennial Commission F Open Symposium**

Dr. Robert Bultitude and Dr. Cesar Amaya will host this meeting in Ottawa, Canada in Spring, 2013

◦ **Commission F Specialist Meeting on Remote Sensing / Microwave Signatures**

Prof. M. Hallikainen will host this meeting in Helsinki, Finland in Fall, 2013

Topic 11: Comm-F proposals for sessions at the next URSI GA in 2011

Action: Suggested (tentative) list of topics:

- Radio channel characterization
- Mobile channel measurements and modeling (see COST 1004) – Dr. Bultitude (Canada)
- GPR and UWB applications
- Terahertz propagation – Dr. Thomas Kuerner (Germany)
- Propagation effects in GPS/GNSS
- Propagation effects in tropical regions – Prof. Animesh Maitra (India), Prof. Ajewole (Nigeria)
- Short-range and indoor microwave propagation – Prof. Takada (Japan)
- Outdoor and indoor optical propagation – Dr. Sizun (France)
- Terrestrial and Earth-space microwave propagation – Dr. Cesar Amaya (Canada)
- Passive microwave remote sensing systems and techniques – Prof. Steven Reising (USA)
- Soil moisture, vegetation and ocean salinity RS from space
- Global observation of the Earth’s surface
- Cryosphere
- RS of snowpack: Experiments and modeling – Prof. Paolo Pampaloni (Italy)
- Radio Frequency Interference (RFI): effects on RS – Prof. Martti Hallikainen (Finland)
 - NOTE: Potentially joint with Comm. J
- Multiparameter radar applications – Prof. Madhu Chandra (Germany)
- Education in the area of remote sensing (e-learning)
- Propagation through vegetation – Dr. Saul Torrico (USA)
- Precipitation and atmospheric remote sensing
- RS for disaster management – Prof. Tullio Tanzi (France)

- Ocean surface RS
- Irregular terrains
- Open sessions 1 and 2
- Theoretical developments common to radiocomm and RS

NOTES:

1. ALL proposals must be submitted via e-mail to both Prof. Roger Lang and Dr. Simonetta Paloscia before **March 2013**. They will both be invited to attend a meeting in Gent, Belgium to finalize the list of sessions for URSI GASS 2014.
2. During URSI GASS 2011, we have 9 F-only sessions, 1 FCA, 2 DAF and 1 FG sessions.
3. For URSI GASS 2014, we will need a Commission F Tutorial as well.

Topic 12: Inter-commission working groups (C)

Action: The WGs automatically end at the GA and must be renewed by resolution
Already dealt with above.

Topic 13: Representatives to other organizations

Action:

- o SCOR: Scientific Committee on Ocean Research (Delaware)
The incoming vice-chair /D. Weissman
- o IUCAF (SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE ON FREQUENCY ALLOCATIONS FOR RADIO ASTRONOMY AND SPACE SCIENCE)
Steven Reising, Colorado State University, USA
- o COSPAR: COMMITTEE ON SPACE RESEARCH (Paris)
Bertram Arbesser

Madhu requested to be kept informed

Topic 14: Publications and Publicity

Action:

- o **Radio Science Bulletin (RSB) publication** (Facilitators: Commission Chair and Vice Chair)
- o **Radio Science:** Collation and review of full papers submitted following the 12th Commission-F triennial symposium, held during March 2011, in Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany. Madhu Chandra will carry out this work as a Guest Editor in consultation with Dr. Paul Canon, Editor-in-Chief of the Radio Science journal

Topic 15: Any other business

Action:

General Comments regarding GASS 2011

- Business Meeting were well attended and productive
- Poland, perhaps for the first time, took active part in the business meetings
- The important GASS2011 activities sometimes occurred in parallel (e.g Tutorial talks, sessions with award presentation and other actions occurred in parallel)