AIAA Astrodynamics Technical Committee
Minutes of the January 2005 Meeting held at the
AAS/AIAA Spaceflight Mechanics Meeting
Copper Mountain, CO
Monday, January 24, 2005
10:00–11:00 AM

Attendance

Members:
Dennis Byrnes
Laureano Cangahuala
David Cicci
Prasun Desai
Bob Farquhar
James Gearhart
Bob Glover
José Guzmán
Cheryl Hilton-Walker
Felix Hoots
Alan Lovell
Don Mackison
Mark Pittelkau
Ron Proulx
Dan Scheeres
Jon Sims
David Spencer (Chairman)

Guests:
Terry Alfriend (AAS SFM Committee Chair)
David Vallado (AAS SFM GC)
Michael Gabor (AAS SFM TC)
Kathleen Howell (AAS ASC GC/Tahoe)
Bobby Williams (AAS ASC TC/Tahoe)
Lee Barker (AIAA GNC Liaison)

David Spencer presiding

1. Opening Remarks/Introductions (Spencer)
   David Spencer opened the meeting by distributing the minutes from the Providence
   meeting (Summer 2005) and the agenda for this meeting. Everyone introduced
   theirself. David discussed the overlap between the AIAA and AAS Technical
   Committee meetings and said that there were joint issues to discuss, hence the first
   joint AIAA/AAS TC meeting will follow the present AIAA TC meeting.

2. TC Roster and Manual Updates (Spencer)
   The TC Roster was circulated, on which those listed above affirmed their attendance.
   A session chair sign-up sheet was circulated. This time there were nine volunteers.

3. New Members (Spencer)
   David Spencer announced that there are four candidates for membership on the AIAA
   TC and that the consensus is that they are all well qualified. There was concern that
one candidate did not state that he was a member of AIAA, but Spencer confirmed that indeed he is a member. Accepting all four candidates still leaves us under the 35-member limit. The count does not include international members, those under 35 years of age, and those rotating off the TC. Ron Proulx asked if the candidates have authored papers or have attended TC meetings. The main point was: Do they understand their obligation to the TC? Recommendations for their membership on the TC will be forwarded to the AIAA.

4. Minutes of the August 2004 Committee Meeting, Providence, RI (Pittelkau)
The minutes of the Summer 2004 meeting were accepted with two minor corrections: Glover was the AIAA Chairperson (he was shown as AAS). In item 9, Kathleen was misspelled. The minutes were accepted as amended.

5. Committee and Subcommittee Membership (Spencer)
Jon Sims said that he went to the TC training session in Reno. He reported that there is a new Emerging Technology Committee. David Spencer asked if anyone was interested in attending Congressional Visits Day in March. He told of his experience in participating in CVD. Committee members who are government employees are prohibited from attending and those who work for government contractors require approval from their management to attend CVD.

6. Education Committee/Website (Lisowski, Hall)
The education subcommittee wants to identify future special sessions.

Lee Barker, the GNC liason, said that our need for better session planning at the joint conference will be relayed back to the GNC committee.

David Spencer announced that the new staff liason and executive director of the AIAA is Major General Robert Dickman, that Emily Springer moved to another position in the AIAA, and that Betty Guillie is taking over Emily’s job on the Technical Activities Committee.

7. Awards Subcommittee
(a) Best Paper Award (Neta)
David Spencer will present the Best Paper Award at the social. In connection with this, we discussed again the problem of session chairs presenting in their own session. David Spencer says a session chair should find another session chair to recommend his paper.

(b) Mechanics and Control of Flight Award (Hall)
There was nothing to do on this at present, but David Spencer requested volunteers to help Chris Hall and David Spencer.

8. Publications Subcommittee (McLaughlin)
(a) James Gearhart began his term last year as the author of the end-year summary
article for the AIAA Aerospace America magazine. He asked for topics by the August meeting and for members to look for high-resolution images for the article.

(b) Liaison: J. Guidance, Control, and Dynamics (Proulx)
Ron Proulx discussed the quality of some grammar in papers submitted for review: international authors whose English is not good should ask for the help of a native English speaker. Pittelkau commented on the shortness of the reviews. Mackison mentioned the reviewer database and David Spencer explained the state of the database, that it tracks the review grade and timeliness. There was some discussion about the archival quality of the SFM and ASC conference proceedings but emphasized that it is not reviewed.

(c) Liaison: J. Spacecraft and Rockets (Spencer)
It was suggested that when authors are asked to submit their paper for publication in the journal that they should also be asked to improve it first.

9. Other Business
Pittelkau mentioned the paucity of Attitude papers because of temporal and spatial proximity to the Breckenridge GNC conference and because of late author notification. In general there were very few abstracts submitted by the original deadline.

The [original] deadline for abstracts for the Tahoe conference is March 4. There were problems reported on Monday morning with computer projection equipment that delayed the start of many sessions. [Also some author’s computers were not compatible and at least one author whose computer was not compatible could not transfer his file and had no transparencies!] Transparency projectors were scarce. Suggestions were offered to smooth out computer projector problems: a) the conference should supply the computer if we are going all electronic (no transparency projectors) and b) Session chairs should collect files before the conference (preferred) or at the speakers’ breakfast.

10. Adjourn and reconvene with the AAS Spaceflight Mechanics TC
The vote for adjournment was unanimous.

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1. Lunch

   (Spencer)
   David Spencer summarized the Summer 2004 conference as “successful”. The paper
   count was 79 from those fully registered, 1 undergraduate student, 35 graduate and
   Ph.D. students, 3 retirees, and 6 complimentary registrants for a total of 124 papers
   presented.

3. Interim report on the Winter 2005 Space Flight Mechanics Meeting,
   Copper Mountain, CO (Vallado, Jenkins, Gabor, Desai)
   There were 109 registrations including 42 students. 136 abstracts were submitted, 2
   were rejected outright, and 11 were withdrawn. There were 24 sessions, including 5
   special sessions: two on the Genesis mission, one on Near Earth Objects and Lunar
   Missions, one entitled Open Astrodynamics, and one on Mars missions.

4. Status of the Summer 2005 Astrodynamics Specialists Conference,
   Lake Tahoe, CA (Howell, Hoots, Williams, D’Amario)
   Kathleen Howell is the AAS General Chair, Bobby Williams is the AAS Technical
   Chair, Felix Hoots is the AIAA General Chair, and Louis D’Amario is the AIAA
   Technical Chair of the Summer 2005 meeting on 7--11 August 2005. Facilities have
   been arranged with 180 rooms reserved at the Embassy Suites at South Tahoe. For the
   offsite social event, one has to take a tram to a mountain top restaurant. The
   registration fee for the conference will be $225—250. Bobby Williams was speaking
   for Louis D’Amario and said that they are testing the new electronic [internet-based]
   submission system. The session chair signup sheet was passed around to recruit more
   volunteers.

5. Planning for the Winter 2006 Space Flight Mechanics Meeting
   Report and Site Selection (Schumacher, Guzman)

   José Guzman is the AIAA General Chair and Al Cangahuala is the AIAA Technical
   Chair for the Winter 2006 meeting, which will be held in the Tampa FL area. Two
   conference facilities are being considered, though they were not specified at the
   meeting. It was suggested that the cost be under the government per diem rate. The
reply was that there is a trade between the hotel rate and the cost of registration. The call for papers will be issued about a month after the conference.

6. **Planning for the Summer 2006 Astrodynamics Specialists Conference**
Dan Scheeres will be the AIAA General Chair and Mark Pittelkau will be the AIAA Technical Chair for the Summer 2006 conference. Alan Lovell is the AAS TC; the AAS GC, Major Ralph Sandfry, was not present. Lee Barker is the GNC liaison. The candidate locations are said to be in Utah, but the final determination will not be made until a month or so after the conference.*

7. **Planning for the Winter 2007 Spaceflight Mechanics Meeting (Zedd)**
Choices of conference location were Sedona, Palm Springs, San Diego, Napa, Scottsdale, and Tucson. Clearly the first preference was Sedona, Arizona. The AIAA committee voted in favor of Sedona with a majority vote by raising the hand. The proposed dates are late January or early February.

8. **Helms Briscoe (Carolyn Bryson)**
Carolyn Bryson of Helms Briscoe was introduced to the committees. She is a conference procurement specialist. She explained her business, saying that it is now a seller’s market but that there is a glut of convention centers. She said that major considerations are cost, per deim, total expenses, and local activities. She explained each of these in detail. [She seemed very professional and well organized.]

9. **Open Astrodynamics (Vallado, Gabor)**
An extra special session on problems and solutions in performing astrodynamics work Space Command was discussed ahead of the session on Wednesday. The jist of it is that Space Command wants to dictate standards by requiring people to use their code.

10. **Advanced Planning for the Summer 2007 Astrodynamics Specialists Conference**
Hanspeter Schaub suggested the conference be held at Virginia Tech. David Spencer gave a short presentation on the Hershey Lodge and Convention Center in Hershey, Pennsylvania. Should the conference be held in Blacksburg, VA, Hanspeter Schaub and Chris Hall agreed to be the general chairs. Should the conference be in Hershey, PA, David Spencer and Bob Melton have agreed to be the general chairs.

Terry Alfriend asked Kim Luu to chair an ad hoc committee to look at recent concerns about publishing the conference proceedings and to make recommendations at the Summer 2005 committee meeting. Mark Pittelkau will forward her a list of problems and concerns.

12. **Web Site and Software for Paper Submission to the Conferences (Coffey)**
This topic was on the agenda but no comments were either said or noted.
Notes:
  * It was later learned that the Summer 2006 conference will be held in Keystone, CO at the Keystone Resort and Conference Center.

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