AESS Board of Governors Meeting, September 2012
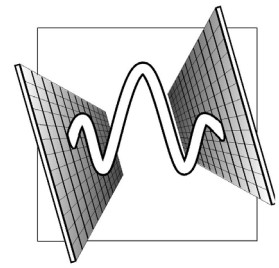
Status update for 2013 International Conference on Radar Systems

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AESS Board of Governors
International Director for Australia and New Zealand

1   Date of conference
The conference will be held from Monday 9 – Thursday 12 September 2013.

2   Venue
- Quotes were gained from a number of venues in Adelaide from hotel style to Convention centre.
- The Hotel Grand Chancellor Adelaide on Hindley was chosen.
- This decision was based on a significantly lower price, however service and style is of a good 4 star standard.
- It is a centrally located hotel in the CBD of Adelaide with close access to a range of other accommodation venues (in price and style).
- A small number of rooms at alternative accommodation venues, such as apartments, have been booked.

3   Theme
The theme for the conference is:
Beyond Orthodoxy: New Paradigms in Radar

Much of the progress in radar science, technology and applications follows a path of evolutionary development, but every so often we encounter a revolutionary advance in some supporting technology, or a novel idea which changes the way we think about radar and how it can be exploited. Radar 2013 welcomes contributions in all areas of radar science and engineering, but particularly encourages papers which open exciting new avenues for exploration and force us to embrace new paradigms.

4   Program Outline
See Appendix A for a program outline.
- In summary the program overview is:
  Monday 9 September
  Tutorials
  Welcome Reception
  Tuesday 10 September
  Keynote and concurrent sessions
  Wednesday 11 September
  Keynote and concurrent sessions
  Conference Dinner
  Thursday 12 September
  Keynote and concurrent sessions

5   Budget
- A draft budget has been prepared with 3 scenarios of 200, 250 and 300 delegates.
- Registration fees are as follows:

Earlybird Member Registration	$750.00
Earlybird Non-Member Registration	$875.00
Standard Member Registration	$850.00

Standard Non-Member Registration	$975.00
Student/Discounted Registration	$400.00
Day Member Registration	$410.00
Day Non-Member Registration	$450.00
Student Day Registration	$250.00

- The sponsorship and exhibition target is $52,500.
- With the above amounts, and known and estimated expenditure, the breakeven figure is currently 175 paying delegates.

6   Keynote Speakers
- A comprehensive list of potential keynote speakers has been developed. 6-8 speakers are currently being shortlisted with invitations then to be issued.
- A mixture of Australian and international speakers will be chosen with an aim to include a speaker form the Asia-Pacific region.

7   Tutorials
- There is the potential to hold eight tutorials.
- Six have been confirmed so far (as listed below), with invitations for another 2 being issued.
    o Inverse problems in radar (Stuart Anderson)
    o OTH radars (Joe Fabrizio)
    o Foliage penetration radar – FOPEN (Mark Davis)
    o Introduction to ISAR (Marco Martorella)
    o Radar imaging – SAR processing (Fabrizio Berizzi)
    o STAP Techniques (Brahma Himed)
    o Tutorials will only proceed if minimum numbers are reached as they must cover costs.

8   Call for Abstracts
- The call for abstracts is currently being prepared (at the time of this report being prepared on 3/8/12), with the view of releasing in September 2012.
- A number of subthemes have been developed to guide the submissions and create streams of concurrent sessions.

9   Sponsorship and Exhibition
- A sponsorship prospectus has been developed with a range of sponsorship packages, and an exhibition component.
- This is currently being distributed to a database developed by the committee.

10   Social program
- Welcome Reception
    o The reception is to be held onsite at the conference venue on the evening of Monday 9 September.
    o This will be held amongst the exhibition providing additional exposure.
    o The cost is inclusive with full registration.
- Conference Dinner
    o The dinner will be held on the evening of Wednesday 10 September.
    o A decision at the next meeting is expected as to the location to the dinner.
    o The choices are either the conference venue or the National Wine Centre. The National Wine Centre is a short distance form the CBD, and would require coach transfers. It is a unique venue in Adelaide highlighting local produce, specifically the wine of South Australia.
    o The cost of the dinner is inclusive with full registration.

11   Website
- A conference website has been developed detailing the major components of the conference and is to be used as the main source of information for delegates.
- www.radar2013.org.au

12   Marketing
- Networks and databases via IEEE and Engineers Australia will be used to publicise the conference.
- Engineers Australia will send three e-blast to members on key dates – call for abstracts announcement, 2 weeks prior to close of early bird date, and 2 weeks prior to the conference.
- A LinkedIn event page has been set up and will be regularly updated announcing key information.
- The website will be a major tool in providing current information about the conference.

Appendix A

Draft program

Monday 9 September			
7.00am-3.00pm-	*Exhibitor build and bump-in*		Torrens Room 2 &3
9.00am-5.00pm	*Workshops (4 in am and 4 in pm)*		
3.00pm-6.00pm	*Registration*		Foyer
6.00pm-8.00pm	**Welcome Reception**		Foyer
Tuesday 10 September			
8.00am-5.00pm	*Registration*		Foyer
9.00am-9.15am	Official Welcome & Welcome to Delegates		Ballroom
9.15am-10.00am	Plenary – Keynote Speaker		Ballroom
10.00am-10.45am	Plenary – Keynote Speaker		Ballroom
10.45am-11.15am	*Morning Tea*		Foyer
11.15am-12.45pm	Concurrent Session 1 Hindley 1	Concurrent Session 2 Hindley 2	Concurrent Session 3 Hindley 3
12.45pm-1.45pm	*Lunch*		Foyer
1.45pm-3.15pm	Concurrent Session 1 Hindley 1	Concurrent Session 2 Hindley 2	Concurrent Session 3 Hindley 3
3.15pm-4.15pm	*Afternoon Tea*		Foyer
4.15pm-5.15pm	Concurrent Session 1 Hindley 1	Concurrent Session 2 Hindley 2	Concurrent Session 3 Hindley 3
Wednesday 11 September			
8.30am	*Registration*		Foyer
9.00am-9.45am	Plenary - Keynote Speaker		Ballroom
9.45am-10.30am	Plenary - Keynote Speaker		Ballroom
10.30am-11.00am	*Morning Tea*		Foyer
11.00am-12.30pm	Concurrent Session 1 Hindley 1	Concurrent Session 2 Hindley 2	Concurrent Session 3 Hindley 3
12.30pm-1.30pm	*Lunch*		Foyer
1.30pm-3.00pm	Concurrent Session 1 Hindley 1	Concurrent Session 2 Hindley 2	Concurrent Session 3 Hindley 3
3.00pm-3.30pm	*Afternoon Tea*		Foyer
3.30pm-5.00pm	Concurrent Session 1 Hindley 1	Concurrent Session 2 Hindley 2	Concurrent Session 3 Hindley 3
7.00pm-11.00pm	**Conference Dinner**		Ballroom, Grand Chancellor
Thursday 12 September			
8.30am-1.00pm	*Registration*		Foyer
9.00am-9.45am	Plenary - Keynote Speaker		Ballroom
9.45am-10.30am	Plenary - Keynote Speaker		Ballroom
10.30am-11.00am	*Morning Tea*		Foyer
11.00am-12.30pm	Concurrent Session 1 Hindley 1	Concurrent Session 2 Hindley 2	Concurrent Session 3 Hindley 3
12.30pm-1.30pm	*Lunch*		Foyer
1.30pm-3.00pm	Concurrent Session 1 Hindley 1	Concurrent Session 2 Hindley 2	Concurrent Session 3 Hindley 3
3.00pm-3.30pm	*Afternoon Tea*		Foyer
3.30pm-5.00pm	Concurrent Session 1 Hindley 1	Concurrent Session 2 Hindley 2	Concurrent Session 3 Hindley 3