

The logo features the word "AES" in blue with a grey arrow curving over it, followed by "VISION" in black. Below this, the year "2020" is written in large, bold, black digits.

**AES VISION**  
**2020**

## **VP Publications report**

**Maria Sabrina Greco**

**BoG meeting, October 18-19, 2019**

**Cologne, Germany**

# Publications 3-Year Goals

- Reduce the average submission-to-publication delay for the AES Transactions to nine months
- Achieve an average submission rate of twelve articles per month for the AES Systems magazine
- Reduce the cost of the AES Systems Magazine
- Increase the contributions to AES publications from industry by two articles per month
- Increase Impact Factor of Transactions to 2.0 (done!)
- Increase Impact Factor of Systems magazine to 1.0 (done!)
- Increase readership (opens) of QEB by 25%
- Increase visits to IEEE AESS website by 25%
- Create a new Transactions on Radar Systems

# **Transactions on AES**

**EiC: Mike Rice**

**AEiCs: Stefano Coraluppi,**

**Piefrancesco Lombardo**

# Improvement of TAES performance

- Introduction of the term limit for the TEs and AEs (AESS-BOG-Spring '18, AI-0769)
- New roster with new AEs
- Change of the timeline for submitted and revised papers
- Goal: Reduce the average submission-to-publication time for the TAES to nine months (first decision to 9-10 weeks)

# Efforts to Decrease Time to First Decision

- Shortened “cycle times”
  - time given to reviewers
  - time given for authors to submit revision
- Automatically-generated email reminders to all Associate Editors
- Training Sessions for Associate Editors

# New time-line

- 2 weeks for AEs to assign reviewers. [Previous deadline = none.]
- 42 days (6 weeks) from AE assignment to first decision. [Previous deadline = 60 days (9 weeks)].
- 42 days (6 weeks) for revision. [Previous deadline = 90 days (13 weeks)]
- 42 days for all subsequent reviews and decisions. [We were thinking shorter here, but [taes.msubmit.net](https://taes.msubmit.net) only has one variable for these things.]

# Automatically-Generated Email Reminders to Associate Editors

- MDR worked with eJournal Press to develop the capability
- The effort started on 29 June 2018.
- The feature went live on 24 January 2019.
- Impact? Still hard to judge at this point. Needs more time.



# Automatically-Generated Email Reminders to Associate Editors

**From:** [taes@msubmit.net](mailto:taes@msubmit.net) <[taes@msubmit.net](mailto:taes@msubmit.net)>  
**Sent:** 12 February 2019 08:13  
**To:** [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** 2 Overdue Associate Editor Task(s)

Dear Prof [REDACTED]

The table below lists all active papers currently assigned to you, any overdue items are noted with red bar graph icons to the right of the due date.

Please use the relevant Manuscript # link to resolve each overdue action item at your earliest convenience.

Manuscript #	Due Date	Current Stage	Corr Author	Days in System	Days in Stage	Potential Reviewers
<a href="#">TAES-201700999RR</a>	January 29, 2019 	Waiting for Potential Reviewer Assignment	Christos Nikolopoulos	21	21	Steve Parkes - Not Contacted Patrizia Savi - Not Contacted
<a href="#">TAES-201801387</a>	January 10, 2019 	Waiting for Potential Reviewer Assignment	Yao Zhang	45	40	Bensong Yu - Not Contacted Shunan Wu - Not Contacted Lei Jin - Not Contacted Rui Zhong - Not Contacted

Sincerely,

Editor-in-Chief  
IEEE Transactions on Aerospace and Electronic Systems



# Associate Editor Training Sessions

- Dates
  - 23 July 2019 (1300 UTC)
  - 25 July 2019 (0300 UTC)
  - 31 July 2019 (1400 UTC)
- Format
  - 1 hour (50 minutes for slides, 10 minutes for questions)
  - GoTo Meeting (MDR computer screen, MDR voice, participants ask questions via message box)
  - A massive thank you to Judy Scharmann
- Results
  - Screen + audio were captured and converted to video. Video files posted on AESS (<http://ieee-aess.org/taes-associate-editor-training-materials>)
  - All questions captured and answered. Questions + Answers posted on AESS website (<http://ieee-aess.org/taes-associate-editor-training-materials>)
  - Another massive thank you to Judy Scharmann
- Impact
  - Probably too early to tell.

# Manuscript Submissions by Country 1 Jan 2019 – 8 October 2019

Country	# Manuscripts	Fraction of Total (1070)
China	435	41%
USA	171	16%
Iran	51	5%
India	48	4%
South Korea	46	4%
UK	36	3%
Canada	35	3%
Italy	35	3%
Brazil	30	3%
Australia	18	2%
Turkey	16	1%
Egypt	11	1%
France	11	1%
Germany	11	1%

# TAES Backlog

- At the moment, our backlog is 14 months long. It means that a paper accepted in October 2019 will not be published before December 2020: **too long**
- Even though we have early-access on IEEExplore, we would like to reduce this time. Katie Sullivan (IEEE Publications) a plan for reducing the backlog.
- **Increase page budget for 2020: 5000 pages**

# Over-length income

55.1	TOTAL PAID	\$ 23200	
	TOTAL UNPAID	\$ 400	
55.2	TOTAL PAID	\$ 29034	
	TOTAL UNPAID	\$ 400	
55.3	TOTAL PAID	\$ 28552	
	TOTAL UNPAID	\$ 1600	
55.4	TOTAL PAID	\$ 23938	
	TOTAL UNPAID	\$ 0	

PAID: \$ 104724      UNPAID: \$ 2400

# Reviewer award

- Award for “the best 4-5 reviewers” – Waive, for instance, the overlength fee for 1 year
- Work with the pubs team and the award committee to define the rules

# **Systems Magazine**

**EiC: Peter Willett**

**AEiC: David Crouse**

# Magazine Update

- **IEEE Publications transition**

- The transition has been completed in March 2019. March issue has been a bit delayed.
- Some problems at the beginning, in handling the papers between acceptance and publication. See details on the following slides.

- **Special issues**

- Driving element: generally good papers

- **Ads**

- IEEE Media no longer uses IEEE Globalspec for magazine advertising sales. They now work with Naylor Associates. New media kit will be provided soon.

# AESS Magazine

- Impact Factor has increased to 2.113
- Tutorial XII (February 2019)
  - “Passive Radar” (Kuschel, Cristallini & Olsen)
  - “GPS Receiver Architectures, Front End and Baseband Signal Processing” (Braasch & Dempster)
  - “Dealing with Rotation Matrices and Translation Vectors in Image-Based Applications: A Tutorial” (Zingoni, Diani and Corsini)
  - “Dealing with Rotation Matrices and Translation Vectors in Image-Based Applications: A Common Reference System for Cameras” (Zingoni, Diani and Corsini)
- Tutorial XIII (accepted or under review)
  - “An Overview of Radomes for Large Ground-based Antennas” (Macdonald)
  - “Primer on Radar Sea Scatter” (Sangston)
  - “Modelling the Statistics of Microwave Radar Sea Clutter” (Rosenberg)
  - “An Introduction to Practical Quantum Key Distribution” (Krawec)
  - “On computational complexity reduction methods for Kalman filter extensions” (Raittoharju)
  - “Conflict detection and resolution for civil aviation: a literature survey” (Tang)



# Special Issues

- “Exploration Mission 1 and Deep Space CubeSats”
  - April 2019, September 2019 plus one upcoming (Davarian, Gao & Kinman)
- “Wireless Sensor Networks and Remote Sensing for Environmental Applications”
  - June 2019 plus two upcoming (Kanoun, Carminati, Marcuccio & Ullo)
- “Selected Methods and Techniques for Intelligent Systems for Space”
  - July 2019 (Moreno, Duncan & Bergman)
- “Quantum Radar”
  - under review (Frasca, Farina & Balaji)
- “Noise Radar”
  - under review (Lukin, Stove & Wasserzler)
- “Cognitive Radar”
  - under review (Brueggenwirth, Huizing & Charlish)
- “Artificial Intelligence for Data Fusion”
  - awaiting due date (Chong, Koch & Fraenken)

# Transition to IEEE Publications

- In 2018 the publications and editing contract – with Allen Press for several years – needed to be re-bid
  - generally happy with Allen Press
  - the issue was made complicated by our dedicated long-term AESM Magazine point of contact being made redundant
  - however, the new PoC was quite good
  - IEEE had some attraction in that it would facilitate integration (pre-publication, XPLORE, etc.)
  - the IEEE bid was less costly, albeit uncertain
- The team selected IEEE
  - the reasons are stated above
- There is a large team supporting us at IEEE
  - Michael Hellrigel is our primary PoC
  - Katelyn Sieffert does the nuts-and-bolts assembly
  - the IEEE Art Department selects the cover material
  - IEEE Printing and Mailing is a separate department

# Transition to IEEE Publications

- The transition was not easy
  - the EiC needs to monitor the accepted papers (spreadsheet going back to early 2017 of all accepted papers, with dates of publication and chasing down if not)
  - especially true for the papers accepted – and in some cases already edited & composited – by Allen Press, but not yet published
- Regular editorial board telecons were suspended
  - will resume in November
- Previously, Allen Press managed everything from acceptance onwards
  - all acceptances – actually, all editorial decisions – are scrutinized by the EiC prior to release
  - Allen Press was copied on acceptance email and contacted the author for files
  - Allen Press also compiled the XML “wrapper” for upload to XPLORE
- IEEE didn’t do this
  - most IEEE-composited publications are through ManuscriptCentral, and there the wrapping is performed automatically
  - refused to consider doing this, since they had no idea how to do it

# Transition to IEEE Publications

- We asked ConferenceCatalysts to perform the material assembly and wrapping management

- there was initially some confusion



- this confusion quickly disappeared once Judy Scharmann was (back) with us



- author letter indicates procedure: upload to FTP site, then JS transmits to IEEE
  - Judy can speak to the level of difficulty this involves, but the EiC's impression is that once she did it once or twice it became straightforward

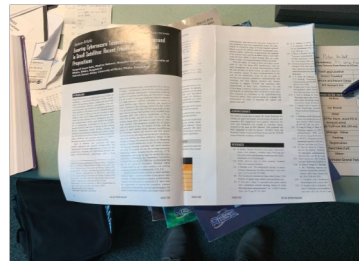
# Transition to IEEE Publications

- There have been glitches, but not the



originally feared

- Teething issue #1
  - two papers in special issues were printed in regular issues
  - apology to authors & organizers, but in fact one of the two worked out OK due to a special circumstance
  - this is fairly forgivable, since IEEE was not familiar with our special-issue culture
- Teething issue #2
  - printing problems
  - seems to be isolated



# **AESS QEB**

**EiC: Fabiola Colone**

**Adm Ed: Judy Scharmann**

# QEB Opens

Campaign Name	# Sent to	# Opened Email	% opened	# Bounced	# Unsubscribed	# Unique Clickers
AES Newsletter 4th Qtr 2016	4261	1291	30%	61	1	126
AES Newsletter 1st Qtr 2017	4332	1467	34%	60	4	166
AES Newsletter 2nd Qtr 2017	3889	1303	34%	69	0	129
AES Newsletter 3rd Qtr 2017	4157	1293	31%	2	1	106
AES Newsletter 4th Qtr 2017	4200	1411	34%	66	4	97
AES Newsletter 1st Qtr 2018	4142	1397	34%	29	3	119
AES Newsletter 2nd Qtr 2018	3489	1097	31%	21	2	106
AES Newsletter 3rd Qtr 2018	3831	1288	34%	22	1	68
AES Newsletter 4th Qtr 2018	4056	1440	36%	40	6	20
AES Newsletter 1st Qtr 2019	4087	1464	36%	86	3	120
AES Newsletter 2nd Qtr 2019	3617	1146	32%	44	1	253
AES Newsletter 3rd Qtr 2019	3995	1046	26%	17	0	176

# QEB – Last edition feedback

Walt D. Downing: *“Best QEB ever!”*

Michael Rice: *“I just received the latest QEB. It looks fantastic. Well done.”*

Roy Streit: *“This QEB is quite extraordinary. It takes a lot of work to put something like this together. Great job. Congratulations, and thank you!”*

Luke Rosemberg: *“Nice edition, but it looks like you missed the student paper award winners...”*



# QEB Initiatives

Initiatives are being implemented to improve the QEB and increase readership:

## 1. New inspiring articles for the section entitled "The story behind a success":

- 4th Ed. 2018: Dr. Luke Rosenberg (recipient of the 2018 Fred Nathanson Award).
- 1st Ed. 2019: Recipients of the Best Student Paper Award at the International Conference on radar (Brisbane, AU)
- 2nd Ed. 2019: Dr. Patrick McCormick (recipient of the 2018 Robert T. Hill Best Dissertation Award).
- 3rd Ed. 2019: Dr. Julie Ann Jackson (recipient of the 2019 Fred Nathanson Award).
- 4th Ed. 2019: Recipients of the Best Student Paper Award at the IEEE Radar Conference 2019 (Boston, MA, USA)

### The Story Behind a Success

Congratulations to William Baxter, Henna Perälä, and Álvaro Duque de Quevedo, who were awarded the Best Student Paper Awards at the 2018 IEEE Radar Conference in Brisbane, Australia!

#### William Baxter

Among those student papers shortlisted, I am extremely honored to have been chosen as the recipient



### The Story Behind a Success

Congratulations to Patrick McCormick, winner of the 2018 Robert T. Hill Best Dissertation Award!

[Read Story](#)



In the hustle and bustle of daily life, we don't often stop to appreciate the path that led to this point in life. As the 2019 winner of the IEEE Fred Nathanson Memorial Radar Award, I'd like to take this opportunity to reflect on my own path and be thankful.

[Read Full Story](#)



# QEB Initiatives

2. New section entitled "**The History Column**" (by Prof. Hugh Griffiths) that is intended to commemorate events or inventions relevant to AESS, with an anniversary within the reference quarter.

- 3rd Ed. 2019: first demonstration of radar in Cologne, Germany, by Christian Hülsmeyer, 17 May 1904.
- 4th Ed. 2019: Tizard Mission, September 1940.

Among the historical articles, it is worth mentioning the contribution by George Schmidt in the

- 2nd Ed. 2019: Inside Apollo, celebrating the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Apollo Missions.

## The History Column

To me, the history of our subject is always fascinating and often surprising. To quote (approximately) the philosopher George Santayana: "Those who do not learn from history are doomed to repeat it." In the case of technology, we often find that ideas that we believe to be new and original actually surfaced many years ago. Our predecessors were pretty smart.

So the purpose of this column will be to describe, in each QEB, some event or invention within the scope of AESS, with an anniversary within that quarter. In all cases I will try to provide references, so that further reading and/or searching online will yield a lot more detail.

The first one in the series is **17 May 1904**, which was the date of the first demonstration of radar in Cologne, Germany, by Christian Hülsmeyer. This will be marked in October by the inauguration of an IEEE Historic Milestone plaque, close to the site of the first demonstration on the banks of the Rhine river. The demonstrations were reported in the *Kölnener Tageblatt* and *Kölnischer Zeitung* newspapers the next day. Translations of some sentences from these reports read as follows:

## Inside Apollo

### Inside Apollo: Heroes, Rules and Lessons Learned in the Guidance, Navigation, and Control (GNC) System Development

By George T. Schmidt, AESS V.P. Technical Operations

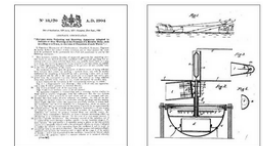
I am writing this in March 2019 which is halfway between the 50th Anniversary of Apollo 8 (Dec 1968) and Apollo 11 (July 1969). Those 2 flights were among the greatest explorations of mankind.



[CLICK HERE TO READ FEATURED STORY](#)

...nely precisely. The inventor explained also that a  
...e electric waves, which could propagate through the  
... same and in the same way as before without  
... that they were witnesses of the first demonstration of  
... ventions of our time.

...d by the transmitter cannot reach the receiver  
... by a metallic object on the sea (that is, by ships).  
The attempt with the small apparatus, which was  
...nces, succeeded perfectly.



Two pages from Hülsmeyer's British patent in 1904.

published in the AESS Systems Magazine. You can  
vention and First Demonstration of Radar, 1904.  
xch



# QEB Initiatives

3. **Advertising the QEB:** After posting a new edition, messages are sent to contributors and members appearing in articles/pictures to urge them to open the email and have a look. The idea behind this is to accustom people, especially young members, to open and read the newsletters since they possibly would

- familiarize with the QEB structure (and related media),
- advertise the content among their peers, and
- check out the next edition looking for similar news.

4. **Adding many contents for young members.**  
**The last edition featured:**

- AESS Professional Networking and Mentorship Program in Action
- AESS Resource Center
- AESS Short Courses and DL Program
- Bob Hill Best Dissertation award



# OA? The Plan S

On 4 September 2018, a group of national research funding organisations, with the support of the European Commission and the European Research Council (ERC), announced the launch of cOAlition S, an initiative to make full and immediate Open Access to research publications a reality.

**“By 2021 scientific publications that result from research funded by public grants provided by participating national and European research councils and funding bodies, must be published in compliant Open Access Journals or on compliant Open Access Platforms.”**

cOAlition S does not favour any specific business model for Open Access publishing or advocate any particular route to Open Access given that there should be room for new innovative publishing models.

<https://www.coalition-s.org/feedback/>

# IEEE proposed options

- (1) Repurpose an extant but moribund journal.
- (2) Start a new OA journal.
- (3) Use a section of IEEE Access.
- (4) Open a shared Open Access journal with some allied societies.

The journal must not have a mirror/sister subscription journal with substantial overlap in editorial board to avoid business models charging for both access and publication. Such journals will de facto be considered hybrid journals

As suggested by IEEE, we decided to **wait and see**

# PRAC!!!!

- IEEE Transactions on Aerospace and Electronic Systems and Systems Magazine will undergo the periodical review on 13 February 2020 during the TAB OU Meeting Series in Orlando, FL, USA.
- Deadline for the report is 13 January 2020.