

AESS Spring 2026 BoG Meeting
15 – 16 May 2026 | Phoenix, Arizona, USA

Attendees: Dale Blair, Arik Brown, Alexander Charlish, Fabiola Colone, Stefano Coraluppi, Kayoum Djedidi, Walt Downing, Scott Goldstein, Sabrina Greco, Braham Himed, Lorenzo Lo Monte, Philipp Markiton, Giovanna Ramirez, Michael Rice, Matthew Ritchie, Jenifer Castillo Rodriquez, Luke Rosenberg, Vince Socci, Abir Tabarki, Peter Voegeli, Peter Willett

Virtual: Steve Butler, Puneet Kumar Mishra, Lily (Li) Qiao, Roberto Sabatini, Barry Tilton

Not in Attendance: Laura Anitori, Fulvio Gini, Elisa Guisti

Staff: Julia Briggs

Guests: C.J. Reddy, David Kunkee, Greg Lyons

Agenda: <https://agd.ieee.org/mpt/Agenda.aspx?eid=19920>

Day 1 – Friday, 15 May 2026

Call to Order, Roll Call, and Agenda Approval – Braham Himed

Braham Himed called the meeting to order at 8:45 am MT

MOTION: Braham Himed moves to approve the Spring BoG 2026 meeting agenda. Sabrina Greco seconds. Motion passed. MO-0362

MOTION: Braham Himed moves to approve the Fall 2025 BoG Meeting minutes. Sabrina Greco seconds. Motion passed. MO-0363

Roll call was conducted and quorum was confirmed.

President’s Message – Braham Himed

President Braham Himed outlined the objectives to grow AESS presence in under-represented regions and strengthen the society's financial position by recouping from past losses. The goal is to increase student enrollments by 2,000+ in the next two years. Progress includes 10 Student Branch Chapter (SBC) petitions and 2 Section Chapters so far. Braham noted a desire to have one Board of Governors (BoG) member from Region 8 (Africa + Middle East). IEEE has multiple technical committees and programs that AESS would like to support with society representation.

IEEE Antennas and Propagation Society (APS) Message – C.J. Reddy

APS) President C.J. Reddy reported on the work and organization of IEEE APS. The Society works with the APS Waves of Support Fund for Talent Development. Braham will attend the 2026 IEEE APS/URSI Conference. There was an emphasis on the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) being written between AESS and APS. Walt Downing will also attend and man the AESS booth for the duration of the 2026 IEEE APS/URSI Conference.

IEEE Geoscience and Remote Sensing Society (GRSS) Message – David Kunkee

GRSS Past President and Society Representative David Kunkee reported on the activities of GRSS and the opportunities to work together, such as the GRSS Student Grand Challenge and the Inspire Develop Empower and Advance (IDEA) initiative. GRSS and AESS have an established MOU and share various initiatives.

IEEE Microwave Theory and Techniques Society (MTT-S) Message – Greg Lyons

MTT-S Past President and Society Representative Greg Lyons reported on the organization and activities of MTT-S. There is a focus on mentoring students and YP, membership and SBC development, and industry online courses. There was a reorganization for technical content for the 2026 IEEE MTT-S International Microwave Symposium (IMS 2026) to include three tracks focused on Radio Frequency Systems and Application (RFSA), Radio Frequency Integrated Circuits (RFIC), and Radio Frequency Technology and Techniques (RFTT).

Conferences – Scott Goldstein

VP Conferences Scott Goldstein reported that primary activity has focused on working with conferences on technical and financial sponsorship, resulting in an increase in overall sponsorships year-over-year. The number of financial sponsorships for 2026 (13) already matches 2025's total, with requests still being received for 2026 and 2027. Scott discussed the best opportunities to utilize the committee, with a potential need to adjust the committee roster. The objectives of the committee in 2026 include increasing financial sponsorships by converting technical conferences and examining geographical distribution to proactively grow sponsorships.

There was a question regarding AUTOTESTCON and the current status of the conference. The conference was cancelled in 2025, and there is still an ongoing obligation to pay The Gaylord National Convention Center annually as part of the multi-year conference agreement. A question was raised about the possibility of moving the conference to Europe. There was also discussion about potentially shifting AUTOTESTCON into a more localized trade show model rather than a traditional conference, due to the lack of paper submissions. Walt Downing mentioned that Pasquale Daponte planned to organize an automated testing track at the 2026 IEEE 13th International Workshop on Metrology for AeroSpace in Madrid, Spain on July 1-3, 2026.

[AI: Julia Briggs to follow up with Walt Downing and Scott Goldstein about the closure of AUTOTESTCON 2027 and 2028 by June 2026. AI-1316](#)

There was also discussion around creating smaller local conferences and events. It was noted that this is an area the Society is actively working on and falls within Member Services. The International Directors are also working on this initiative, and it could potentially become a focus area for the Young Professionals Representative and the SYP Congress.

IEEE Radar Conference 2026 – Brian Cordill

RadarConf 2026 General Co-Chair Brian Cordill reported that there is a healthy reserve and finances are good. Due to the low attendance in Atlanta, there was concern about the impact of the current global situation on the conference. There was discussion about the lack of Chinese attendees at conferences hosted in the US.

Publications – Luke Rosenberg

IEEE Transactions on Aerospace and Electronic Systems (TAES) Update

TAES is within the top 10 "Grand Journals" of IEEE with an impact factor (IF) of 5.7. Submissions are projected to increase to 8,500 in 2026 (up from 6,100 in 2025). Reviewer evaluation time was reduced from 45 to 30 days. Editors face high workloads due to the publication's growth, and Luke noted the urgent need for new tools for pre-screening and attracting more Associate Editors (AEs).

IEEE Aerospace and Electronic Systems Magazine (MAES) Update

The paper backlog is in good shape with an IF of 3.8 and a 51% rejection rate. Goals include completing guidelines for standardized magazine interviews and extending the best student paper award to IEEE Navigation Conference (NAVICON 2026) and other conferences.

Other Journals

Transactions on Radar Systems (TRS) is preparing for a significant uptick in submissions as it qualifies for its initial Impact Factor in June 2026. Journal on Miniaturization for Air and Space Systems (J-MASS) expects a 20% increase in submissions due to its first Impact Factor (2.1).

Open Journal of Systems Engineering (OJSE) needs help attracting papers and will collaborate with the IEEE Systems Council for rejuvenation.

[AI: Lorenzo Lo Monte to contact IEEE Publications to determine if AESS can publish proceedings with MGA sponsored conferences by July 2026. AI-1317](#)

Education – Puneet Kumar Mishra (Virtual), Giovanna Ramirez acting as liaison

VP Education Puneet Kumar Mishra reported 63 Distinguished Lecturers (DLs) in 2025, with 49 Virtual DL talk (VDLs) planned for mid-2026. 2026 objectives include a SpaceTech Short Course during IEEE 2026 SPACE conference, on Human Space Flight and Medicine on 19 July 2026, and a SpaceTech Lecture Tour in Portugal (10-12 November 2026). Vince, Puneet, and Giovanna will present their DLs in Portugal.

An initiative was proposed to support 20 AESS SBCs with up to \$300 each to procure Educational DIY Kits for Nano Drones/Pico Satellites.

DL Request Form Update

It was reported that some DLs are aggressively utilizing the option of hosting a DL talk in non-IEEE entities, which means the DL talk will not be advertised or supported by AESS members. There was discussion around who can request a DL, and it was decided that non-IEEE entities requesting a DL must be sponsored by an AESS Chapter.

[AI: Puneet Kumar Mishra to create a 2026-2027 educational offerings schedule to share with the Education Committee, and Julia Briggs to post on the AESS website by August 2026. AI-1318](#)

[AI: Lorenzo Lo Monte to update/clarify AESS DL Funding Policy by August 2026. AI-1319](#)

There was discussion about the VDL talks available on the IEEE Learning Network (ILN). Puneet noted there is confusion around whether they are still being hosted on ILN.

AI: Puneet Kumar Mishra to share the email correspondence with IEEE regarding IEEE Learning Network with Jenifer Castillo by June 2026. AI-1320

AI: Puneet Kumar Mishra to do market research to determine what is the best product for the Nano Drone/Pico Satellite kits to order for student use by December 2026. AI-1321

Dissertation Award

It was reported that there was miscommunication regarding the Dissertation Award and organizing the committee. The process will be adjusted before the next awards season opens and there was a recommendation for there to be more reviewers appointed for the award.

Radar Boot Camp

There was discussion regarding funding support for the Radar Boot Camp and other educational activities at conferences. Questions were raised about how to better support lecturers and the process for funding educational activities under current IEEE and AESS guidelines. It was noted that funding requests must be submitted through the Conference Activity Funding form and that the Board supports educational activities at conferences. Discussion also included travel grants and clarification around Young Professionals Travel Grants.

AI: Puneet Kumar Mishra to reach out to Scott Goldstein, VP Conferences, to determine how to financially support educational activities at conferences by August 2026. AI-1322

Technical Operations – Roberto Sabatini (Virtual)

VP Technical Operations Roberto Sabatini highlighted 2025 accomplishments, including launching the first IEEE Navigation Conference (NAVICON) in Dec 2026 with the Navigation and Avionics Technical Panels (TP), and establishing the Integrated Sensing and Communication Technical Working Group (ISAC TWG) and Low-Altitude Wireless Networks Technical Working Group (LAWN TWG). There was a TechOps Summit hosted during the Fall 2025 Board Meeting where all AESS TP Chairs gathered and a lot of positive collaboration between panels resulted from the meeting.

2026 objectives include finalizing and implementing the "AESS TechOps Policies, Procedures, and Best Practices" guide, launching the FALCON Research & Training Initiative to drive research and innovation (R&I) and training on sustainable and autonomous aerospace systems, working with other societies to host conferences, and sending out the Delphi Survey 2.

There was discussion around whether it is within AESS's scope and budget to move forward with the FALCON Research & Training Initiative.

AI: Roberto Sabatini to work with Braham Hamed over email to determine whether the FALCON Research & Training Initiative is a viable action by December 2026. AI-1323

[AI: Roberto Sabatini to send the TechOps Guide to the Technical Panel Chairs for review and discussion at a meeting before the TechOps Summit at the Fall BoG Meeting \(November 2026\). AI-1324](#)

Issues/Show-stoppers

It was reported that there are inconsistent structures and operations across TPs, lack of standardized processes for member selection/retention, and no funding mechanisms for TWGs.

Technical Panel Activity Review

All Technical Panel Activity reports are uploaded in the agenda for board review.

Finance – Steve Butler (Virtual), Peter Willett acting as liaison

Member-at-Large and previous VP Finance Peter Willett (presenting for 2026 VP Finance, Steve Butler) confirmed that AESS remains financially healthy, tracking closely to budget with a projected net surplus of approximately 5% over budget. It was reported that expenses are higher than previously anticipated because of AUTOTESTCON cancellation. Expenses are increasing across IEEE including travel expenses.

There was discussion about whether the budget could be broken down by each VP area. It was noted that this would need to be done through expenses. Steve is currently working to determine which products and budget lines are associated with each VP area.

[AI: Steve Butler to meet with VPs to determine how to support the VPs in their budgeting by November 2026. AI-1325](#)

There was discussion regarding approval of the final budget, with the constitution stating that the Board is responsible for final approval. It was noted that if timing does not allow for an in-person meeting, the approval vote could be conducted virtually between meetings.

Industry Relations – Barry Tilton (Virtual)

VP Industry Relations Barry Tilton reported that engagement is being driven by the substantial growth in space and related technologies. 2026 objectives include expanding focus on new Space initiatives, increasing activity in potentially denied navigation areas, and evaluating the impact of AI/LLM on future systems development.

Member Services – Vince Socci

VP Member Services Vince Socci reported completing the VP transition, managing Chapter Activity Funding, and welcoming two new chapters and six new SBCs. Student member growth is 25.4% year-over-year, but there is a retention problem as students often don't become full members. One way this challenge is addressed in other societies is to use YPs as a bridge between students and members. It was also noted that IEEE will begin accepting international currencies and including payment plans for lower income countries.

There was discussion about encouraging conferences to involve local AESS Sections at the conference organization level, as Sections are currently limited in funding and conferences may provide an opportunity for greater engagement and support.

Vince provided a status update on chapter funding. There was discussion around the level of funding provided to chapters compared to the activities they are hosting.

The 2026 objectives include revitalizing current Chapters and Student Branch Chapters through four chapter summits in Phoenix, India, Peru, and Tunisia, as well as forming five new chapters in the top prospective Sections of Beijing, Dallas, Los Angeles, Chicago, and Phoenix.

Current challenges discussed included gaps in volunteer leadership, the need for codified criteria for Chapter Activity funding and Member Services Awards, and limited metrics for measuring member engagement and activity.

[AI: Vince Socci and Matt Ritchie to send details for the updated Chapter of the Year and SBC of the Year awards to Dale Blair by September 2026. AI-1326](#)

[AI: Julia Briggs to send the Capstone Project Outline to the Student Branch Chapter Chairs by June 2026. AI-1327](#)

Awards – Dale Blair

VP Awards Chair Dale Blair presented accomplishments, structural updates, and new motions. Discussion included restrictions on award amounts based on TABARC guidelines.

Highlights included the transfer of \$75,000 to the IEEE Foundation to make the Warren White Award self-sustaining, as well as the completion of committee appointments and selections for eight 2026 awards. The committee also finalized one \$4,000 award for the Senior Design Project Program and selected four solutions for funding for Challenge Problem I (Radar). The problem definition for Challenge Problem II (Cybersecurity) was presented at the 2026 International Conference on Information Fusion.

There was discussion about continuing access to challenge problem datasets after conferences conclude. It was noted that interest in the datasets continued after the conference, and improvements are needed to increase visibility and accessibility of the data on the website. Potential distribution through Student Branch Chapter Chairs, hosting on IEEE DataPort, and publication in the IEEE Data Descriptions Journal were discussed. There are plans for a future Challenge Problem III focused on Sensor Fusion, with additional time needed to incorporate feedback from the previous challenges.

Discussion also focused on increasing awareness and participation in awards and Fellow nominations, including strategies for better publicity and targeting the appropriate audiences.

Additional discussion clarified that the Capstone Project award is intended to connect members, industry, and students with universities, and that professors, particularly AESS members, are expected to submit proposals.

[AI: Julia Briggs to gather and send Dale Blair the regional breakdown of nominations for all AESS awards by August 2026. AI-1328](#)

AI: Dale Blair to send Julia Briggs the Radar Challenge dataset to add to the website by August 2026. AI-1329

AI: Julia Briggs to work with Lorenzo Lo Monte to add headings to website for all Funding Opportunities by October 2026. AI-1330

Nominations and Appointments (N&A) Committee – Sabrina Greco

N&A Committee Chair Sabrina Greco reported that the slate of 12 candidates will be vetted by IEEE in 4-5 weeks, with the election scheduled to start July 1.

Mentorship Program – Arik Brown

Mentorship Program Chair Arik Brown reported collaboration with the Broadening Participation Panel to establish a structured and ongoing mentor–mentee program. The immediate focus is leveraging the Mentorship Lunch at the IEEE Radar Conference on May 14 to identify mentors and collect contact information, with 2026 goals including a conference-based social event and a virtual mentor panel. Outreach efforts continue, including a membership-wide email, with approximately 107 participants engaged in Collaboratec so far; improved tracking of engagement remains a need. A suggestion was made to include a mentor/mentee spotlight in the QEB.

Arik also proposed a “Research Alignment Forum” at conferences to better connect academic research with industry needs and facilitate collaboration between corporations and universities, with discussion noting the importance of positioning it appropriately and learning from similar European conference models.

International Directors – Philipp Markiton

International Director Lead Philipp Markiton presented an initiative to foster small & local AESS Technical Conferences. The rationale is that flagship conferences have limited participation due to travel costs and visa constraints, especially for students and young professionals. The proposed structure is a one-day, narrow-focus event with a Distinguished Lecture, peer-reviewed papers, and networking. The next steps are to identify pilot chapters and launch initial DL-driven events.

Day 2 – Saturday, 16 May 2026

Attendees: Dale Blair, Arik Brown, Alexander Charlish, Fabiola Colone, Stefano Coraluppi, Kayoum Djedidi, Walt Downing, Scott Goldstein, Sabrina Greco, Braham Himed, Lorenzo Lo Monte, Philipp Markiton, Giovanna Ramirez, Michael Rice, Matthew Ritchie, Jenifer Castillo Rodriguez, Luke Rosenberg, Vince Socci, Abir Tabarki, Peter Voegeli, Peter Willett

Virtual: Puneet Kumar Mishra, Lily (Li) Qiao, Roberto Sabatini, Barry Tilton

Not in Attendance: Laura Anitori, Fulvio Gini, Elisa Guisti

Staff: Julia Briggs

Guests: CJ Reddy, David Kunder, Greg Lyons, Sarah Schneeberger

Call to Order, Roll Call - Braham Himed

Young Professionals (YP) – Abir Tabarki

YP Representative Abir Tabarki outlined 2026 objectives focused on supporting the transition from student membership to YP engagement and strengthening collaboration and participation. Planned activities include a YP Networking Event at the IEEE Radar Conference in conjunction with the Radar Challenge, as well as additional events in India and Portugal, with a potential session at NAVICON 2026. The Tunisia Section was noted as a strong model, with established networking programming and integrated internship opportunities. A call was made for interested hosts to reach out to Abir for YP networking sessions.

New initiatives include forming a diverse IEEE Young Professionals Committee with regional representation. The Board of Governors was asked to recommend regional representatives to join the committee.

[AI: Board of Governors to recommend members from their home region to Abir Tabarki to join the YP Committee by December 2026. AI-1331](#)

There was discussion about the IEEE AESS SYP 2027 (Students and Young Professionals) Congress, including whether AESS should fully fund the event and how to best structure it. While the 2025 event was viewed as successful with strong participation and low cost, there was discussion about optimizing its format, potentially pairing it more closely with conferences, and evaluating whether a more localized approach could better support membership growth. The value and impact of travel grants was also discussed, with emphasis on strengthening the student-to-YP pipeline while balancing funding efficiency and engagement outcomes. It was noted that additional data from sponsors would be helpful in assessing impact.

[AI: Abir Tabarki to select 3 potential locations and put forward proposals for the SYP Congress 2027 by July 2026. AI-1332](#)

[AI: Abir Tabarki to work with Julia Briggs to create a flyer and brochure with opportunities for YPs and Students by July 2026. AI-1333](#)

Graduate Students – Kayoum Djedidi

Graduate Students Representative Kayoum Djedidi reported a 4.77% increase in graduate student membership. Key gaps include limited visibility of graduate student work and an unclear transition pathway from student members to YPs, with mentorship identified as a key area for expansion. The IEEE AESS Tunisia Section was highlighted as a successful model for engagement.

[AI: Kayoum Djedidi to share the Student Corner for the AESS QEB with Julia Briggs by June 2026. AI-1334](#)

Objectives include developing quarterly webinars, mentorship activities, a graduate student newsletter, and increased engagement through papers and Senior Capstone Projects. A “90-Day Activation Rule”

was proposed to ensure new graduate student leads receive an assigned AESS activity within 90 days to strengthen the engagement pipeline. A Student Young Professional Showcase was also proposed to fund selected student authors at flagship conferences as “AESS Conference Scholars” to strengthen academia–industry connections. Concerns were noted regarding low engagement in Region 10 and the need to improve conversion to regular membership.

[AI: Lorenzo Lo Monte and Kayoum Djedidi to share with Julia Briggs opportunities for Graduate Students to be added to the AESS website by September 2026. AI-1335](#)

[AI: Kayoum Djedidi to determine which Graduate Student initiatives to move forward and seek support from Julia Briggs by December 2026. AI-1336](#)

Undergraduate Students – Peter Voegeli

Representative Peter Voegeli noted that undergraduate students often have an unclear relationship with IEEE and face barriers due to website structure and terminology. It was emphasized that SBCs should be strengthened at the university level to improve undergraduate awareness of engagement opportunities, funding access, and pathways into AESS. Proposed actions include creating a framework for branches to share successful events, improving website clarity, and expanding the mentorship program to include internships for student members.

The importance of faculty engagement was highlighted, including the need for stronger faculty advisor involvement and potential travel support to encourage participation. It was noted that vTools could be leveraged to display SBC events on the website and that newsletters could help promote faculty engagement. SBCs were also noted as often operating independently from sections and chapters, with faculty interest being key to successful formation.

Regional engagement differences were noted, particularly in Regions 8 and 10, where student participation is often driven by perceived career necessity rather than clear understanding of AESS opportunities.

AESS Activity Reports

DSTEI/Student Branch Innovation Research (SBIR) – Vince Socci

Vince Socci reported that the universities reviewing the grants have been selected and owes an update for the initiative moving forward.

[AI: Vince Socci to work on SBIR design with Lorenzo Lo Monte and Scott Goldstein to release RFPs by August 2026. AI-1337](#)

IEEE Conference on Integrated Sensing and Communications (ISAC 2026) – Sabrina Greco

The Organizing Committee is actively working and has met every two to three weeks. The AESS representative, Alexander Yarovoy, on the Organizing Committee is serving as one of the three General Chairs. Elias Aboutanios, Patrick McCormick, and Igal Bilik are also involved in the conference organization.

It was noted that increased proactive engagement is needed, as IEEE Communications Society members are submitting a large number of papers. To ensure strong AESS presence, greater participation from AESS members is encouraged, including involvement in industry panels.

Other Initiatives – Braham Himed

Braham proposed adding a VP of Publicity & Marketing role to better support engagement activities, including potential oversight of advertising in the magazine and the QEB. It was noted that implementing this change would require updates to the bylaws and a formal motion, with clarification that this would not change the number of Members-at-Large. The possibility of forming a committee versus establishing a VP position was also discussed.

[AI: Braham Himed to coordinate with Julia Briggs to begin formalizing the new VP of Publicity & Marketing position by November 2026. AI-1338](#)

Discussion also included formalizing the Distinguished Lecturer (DL) Coordinator role as a Board-level position, potentially appointed through the Education Committee, to ensure consistency and structure. Clarification was requested regarding term transitions and succession planning for Board roles, including Members-at-Large.

The DL program was further discussed, with suggestions to reassess its structure and consider aligning it more closely with models in other societies, potentially including a smaller group of highly distinguished lecturers. A potential Distinguished Industry Speaker (DIS) program was also proposed to complement the DL program with industry-focused speakers.

[AI: Braham Himed to form a committee to explore updating the Distinguished Lecture program and adding a new Distinguished Industry Speaker Program by September 2026. AI-1339](#)

It was noted that greater clarity is needed around travel expectations and commitments for DLs/VDLs, including predefined willingness to travel and structured assignment based on regional requests. Concerns were raised about ensuring active participation and maintaining appropriate geographic and topical coverage while balancing a smaller, more distinguished pool of speakers.

Motions – Braham Himed

It was determined that the DL Request form could be updated by Lorenzo without a vote from the board.

MOTION: Puneet Kumar Mishra moves to approve a budget of USD 10K to organize SpaceTech Lecture Tour in Portugal during November 10-12, 2026. Motion tabled.

[AI: Puneet Kumar Mishra to send budget and additional information for SpaceTech Lecture Tour by June 2026. AI-1340](#)

MOTION: Puneet Kumar Mishra moves to approve a budget of USD 6K to support 20 AESS SBCs to procure DIY Nano Drone/Picosat Educational Kit. Scott seconds. Motion failed. MO-0364

Discussion focused on whether equipment kits should be treated as a formal chapter activity and how they would be procured and distributed. Concerns were raised about ownership, custodianship, and whether AESS should maintain stock of equipment versus responding to chapter requests. It was clarified that consumable kits may be eligible for purchase, but durable (capital) equipment is not.

The preferred approach is to require expressions of interest and formal requests from Student Branch Chapters, reviewed and approved through the existing funding process rather than pre-purchasing and storing kits. It was suggested that the Education Committee issue calls for proposals, with applications routed through VP Member Services. A centralized portal or listing for visibility could be considered, but AESS should not be responsible for ordering, storing, or shipping kits. Reference was made to prior initiatives such as Drone-a-Thon, which was supported through funding rather than equipment distribution.

MOTION: TechOps Committee moves to allocate up to USD 15,000 to establish the FALCON Innovation Program, supporting its initial development, organization, and execution. Motion failed. MO-0365

Discussion noted that the proposed funding level is insufficient to fully support the intended activity at a production or prototype level. It was clarified that the purpose of the funding is to initiate ideas and support scaling and training of new projects, rather than developing prototypes.

It was agreed that additional discussion and a clearer framework are needed before proceeding with implementation. Concerns were raised about alignment with AESS strategic priorities. The recommendation was made to withdraw the motion and revisit it at a later time once further structure and alignment have been developed.

MOTION: Roberto Sabatini moves to allocate up to USD 25,000 per calendar year to fund the TechOps Summit organization and execution (after each Fall BoG meeting). Scott seconds. Motion fails. MO-0366

It was discussed that the TechOps funding doesn't need to be voted on by the board.

AI: Braham Himed to negotiate support for the TechOps Summit organization and execution by July 2026. AI-1341

MOTION: Roberto Sabatini moves to allocate up to USD 5,000 per calendar year to fund the activities of each Technical Working Group (TWGs), aligned with AESS strategic objectives. Sabrina Greco seconds. Motion passed. MO-0367

MOTION: Vince Socci moves to approve funding request of \$10k from IEEE AESS Tunisia, Jordan, and Egypt Chapters for an IEEE AESS Sustainability Hackathon. Braham Himed seconds. Motion passed. MO-0368

MOTION: Dale Blair moves to move the Walter Fried Award for best paper at the PLANS conference to an IEEE AESS sponsored conference in the field of navigation. Scott Goldstein seconds. Motion passed. MO-0369

It was noted that the Walter Fried Award is funded through the IEEE Foundation, and that AESS does not receive funding from ION PLANS. There was consensus to move the Award from the PLANS conference to an IEEE AESS sponsored conference.

MOTION: Dale Blair moves to create an award for individuals who have made a substantial contribution to the technology of navigation and position equipment, systems, or practices. This will be administered by the Navigation Systems Panel. Braham Himed seconds. Motion passed. MO-0370

MOTION: Dale Blair moves to establish the Michael Braasch Best Student Paper Award at the IEEE Navigation Conference. Braham Himed seconds. Motion passed. MO-0371

MOTION: Dale Blair moves to appoint a committee to reformulate our annual budget of \$30k for two undergraduate scholarships and one graduate scholarship to a new Program(s). Motion withdrawn. MO-3072

AI: Braham Himed to form a committee to determine the best path forward for the proposed graduate student support initiative, including consideration of whether to maintain or restructure scholarship-based support by August 2026. AI-1342

Admin Updates – Julia Briggs

The next AESS Board of Governors meeting will be in Lisbon, Portugal on November 13-14, 2026, co-located with ISAC 2026.

The meeting adjourned at 12:37 pm by Braham Himed.

e-Votes:

- The Nominations Committee moves to approve the following slate of candidates for the 2026 Board of Governors election: Raviraj Adve, William “Dale” Blair, Peng Hu, Jason Hui, Gokhan Inalhan, Zak (Zaher) Kassas, Lishuai Li, Avid Roman-Gonzalez, Himani Saini, Brindha Saminathan, Vincent Socci, and Barry Tilton. Motion passed.
- Sabrina Greco moves that the Board of Governors approves the following individuals be appointed to serve on the 2026 Nominations and Appointments Committee in accordance with AESS bylaws: Chair: Maria Sabrina Greco, Members: Erik Blasch, Fulvio Gini, Giovanna Ramirez. Motion passed.
- Luke Rosenberg moves to extend Gokhan Inalhan's term as IEEE Transactions on Aerospace and Electronic Systems Editor-in-Chief for 2026-2028 term. Motion passed.
- Mark Davis moves to elect Steve Butler as the 2026 VP Finance for IEEE AESS. Motion passed.
- Dale Blair moves to establish the IEEE AESS Kershner Award to recognize individuals with outstanding contributions to the area of navigation. Motion passed.

- Sabrina Greco moves to appoint Philipp Markiton as the 2026 AESS International Directors Chair. Motion passed.