

Minutes of the SSTC Meeting at ISCAS 2005
Kobe, Japan
May 24, 2005

1. Approval of Current Agenda
The meeting was opened for business at 7:30 p.m. on May 24, 2005. The agenda was approved as written.

2. Introduction of Members and Attendees
The following SSTC Members were present:
 - Orly-Yadid Pecht, Chair
 - Andre van Schaik, Vice-Chair
 - Denise Wilson, Secretary-Elect

 - Chung-Yu Wu, peterwu@mail.nctu.edu.tw
 - Bing Sheu, b.sheu@ieee.org
 - Franco Maloberti, franco.maloberti@unipv.it
 - Ralph Etienne-Cummings, retienne@jhu.edu
 - Giacomo Indiveri, giacomo@ethz.ch
 - Timothy Horiuchi, timmer@isr.umd.edu
 - Roman Genov, roman@eecg.toronto.edu
 - Philipp Hafliger, hafliger@ifi.nio.no
 - Shai Diller, shai.diller@zorah.com
 - Diego Barrettino, diego@ee.washington.edu
 - Salvatore Baglio, salvatore.baglio@dieess.mmict.it
 - Piotr Dudek, pdudek@manchester.ac.uk

The following additional people were present:

 - Ce Kuen Shieh, shieh@ee.ncku.edu.tw
 - Tor Sverre, bassen@ifo.vio.no
 - Amine Bermak, eeberm@ee.ust.hk
 - Eugenio Culurciello, eugenio.culuriello@yale.edu
 - Shantami Chakrabanty, shantanu@msu.edu
 - Paul Hasler, phasler@ece.gatech.edu
 - Karim Oweiss, koweiss@msu.edu
 - Yanyi Wong, eltan@glu.umd.edu
 - Alex Fish, afish@ee.bgu.acie

3. State of the Sensors TC
Ralph Etienne-Cummings reported that top-notch papers in the biomedical applications sessions during ISCAS 2005 set up momentum for the Sensory Systems TC that should be maintained in coming years. Ralph will be seeking support for the 2005 Telluride Neuromorphic Engineering Workshop from IEEE to further elevate the visibility of sensor systems in IEEE. The Demonstration Poster track was seen as a successful means to promote visibility of the SSTC and

members agreed to repeat it again during ISCAS 2006. Record of attendees during the Demo session will be made to support proof of its success.

4. Discussion of next year's activities

R. Etienne-Cummings will continue with special sessions in biomedical applications for ISCAS 2006. The special sessions will be maintained or expanded at 1-2 sessions in this topical area. The Demo Poster track will also be repeated for ISCAS 2006.

Franco Maloberti suggested that duplication of effort between the council and the circuits and systems society is an issue. He suggested that the C&S society have a more significant role in the council. Orly Yadid-Pecht will contact the council and offer a more significant SSTC role.

5. Introduction of an SSTC-sponsored Journal

Tor Sverre-Lande offered his role in biotechnology (as the circuits and systems representative) to improve the visibility of the SSTC. He suggested the introduction of a quarterly journal in biotechnology. Bing Sheu suggested instead that the SSTC pursue 4-5 special issues before spinning off into a permanent journal. Diego Barretino suggested the title "Transactions in Life Science Applications". After some discussion, it was moved, seconded, and approved to pursue the introduction of a new journal in the neuromorphic/biotechnology applications. The name of this journal will be decided at a later date.

6. New members

The following new members were introduced and approved by the committee. Interests and biographies are provided as available:

- Qe Kuen Shieh, shieh@ee.ncku.edu.tw: Sensor Networking
- Tor Sverre-Lande, bassen@ifo.vio.no: Neuromorphic Systems and Neural Networks.
- Amine Bermak, eeberm@ee.ust.hk: IC Design for CMOS Imagers; (M,99, SM,04), Dr. Amine Bermak received both his MEng and PhD degrees in Electronic Engineering from Paul Sabatier University, France in 1994 and 1998, respectively. During his PhD, Dr. Bermak was part of the Microsystems and Microstructures Research Group at the French National Research Center LAAS-CNRS where he developed a 3D VLSI chip for artificial neural network classification and detection applications. He joined the Advanced Computer Architecture research group at York University, England, where he was working as a Post-doc on VLSI implementation of CMM neural network for vision applications in a project funded by British Aerospace. In November 1998, Dr. Bermak joined Edith Cowan University, Perth, Australia, first as a research fellow working on smart vision sensors, then as a lecturer and a senior lecturer in the school of Engineering and Mathematics. He is currently an Assistant Professor with the Electrical and Electronic Engineering Department of Hong Kong University of Science and Technology (HKUST) where he is also serving as the associate director of Computer Engineering Programme. In 2004, Dr. Bermak was awarded the Bechtel Foundation Engineering

Teaching Excellence Award. Dr Bermak is a senior member of IEEE. He has published more than 70 papers in journals, book chapters and refereed international conferences.

- Eugenio Culurciello, eugenio.culurciello@yale.edu: SOI Design and Image Sensors; (S'97-M'99) received the Ph.D. degree in Electrical and Computer Engineering in 2004 from Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD. In July 2004 he joined the department of Electrical Engineering at Yale University, where he is currently an assistant professor. His research interest is in analog and mixed-mode integrated circuits for biomedical applications, sensors and networks, biological sensors, Silicon on Insulator design and bio-inspired systems.
- Shantami Chakrabanty, shantanu@msu.edu: RFID Circuits and Circuits for DNA Sensors
- Paul Hasler, phasler@ece.gatech.edu: Sensor Interfaces and Neuromorphic Engineering
- Karim Oweiss, koweiss@msu.edu: Neural systems for Neural Prostheses

7. Best Papers

Best Paper awards were presented by Andre van Schaik for the SSTC for this year's conference..

8. Orly Yadid-Pecht's term as chair finished and she became Past-Chair. Andre van Schaik is the new Chair, Shih-Chii Liu the new Chair-Elect, Denise Wilson the new Secretary, and Bernabe Linares the new Secretary Elect.

9. Ralph Etienne-Cummings thanked Orly Yadid-Pecht for her service on the SSTC as chair. Great applause followed and the meeting adjourned without further incident.