

**Minutes of the Control Systems Society
Board of Governors Meeting on Dec. 11, 2000
Sydney Convention & Exhibition Center, Sydney, Australia**

Call to Order and Approval of Agenda

T. Başar called the meeting of the Control System Society's (CSS) Board of Governors (BoG) at 1:00 pm and drew the attention of those present to the historic significance of the event being held for the first time in the Southern hemisphere. The following members of the BoG of the CSS attended the meeting: T. Başar, J. Baillieul, L. Bushnell, X. Cao, C. Cassandras, B. Heck, F. Lewis, R. Middleton, P. Misra, B. Pasik-Duncan, K. Passino, A. Rantzer, W.J. Rugh, T. Samad, C. Schrader, L. Shaw, M. Shor, M. Spong, and R. Tempo. The following members of the BoG were not present at the meeting: J. Birdwell, M. Bodson, R. DeCarlo, M. Gevers, M. Grimble, H. Khalil K. Loparo, U. Özguner, M. Polis, and S. Yurkovich. Additionally, the following visitors attended the meeting: P. Absil, P. Antsaklis, A. Haddad, T. Parisini, A. Tits, A. Varga.

There were no changes to the agenda, sent to the Board of Governors before the meeting. The agenda was approved by unanimous consent. Next, the minutes of the BoG meeting of June 27, 2000 held at the Hyatt Regency Hotel, Chicago, IL USA, distributed prior to the meeting, were approved by unanimous consent. Başar welcomed the attendees and reminded them that only the members of the BoG were eligible to vote and/or make a motion. He also took the opportunity to inform the BoG that the awards ceremony, traditionally held during the conference banquet, would be held just prior to it. He urged the BoG to attend the awards ceremony. Additionally, he invited the BoG to be present during the newcomers' reception.

Action Items

Appointments for 2001

Başar invited Rugh to present the volunteer slate for the year 2001 for the BoG's approval.

Rugh noted that the Executive Committee for 2001 was already approved by the BoG during the June meeting. He informed the BoG that he had appointed the following: E. Camacho, M. Krstic, P. Misra, A. Nijmeijer, H. Perdon and G. Yen to the Board of Governors for 2001. Next, he suggested that if any of the members present in the meeting were being nominated for a position, they should excuse themselves from the room for the duration of discussion and subsequent vote on their candidacy.

Approval of Nominating Committee

Rugh moved that the BoG approve the Nominating Committee chaired by T. Başar and consisting of N.H. McClamroch, W. Perkins, W.J. Rugh and L. Shaw. The BoG approved the committee unanimously, without any discussion.

Approval of Standing Committees

Next, Rugh proposed names of chairs of 18 Standing Committees of the Control Systems Society, noting that chairs of 12 of them were continuing from the previous year and pointed out that new chairs were H. McClamroch for Awards, S. Yurkovich for Conference Administration, J. Grizzle for Fellow Nominations, D. Abramovich for History, A. Alleyne for Membership and Admissions and M. Shor for Public Information Committee. All 18 Standing Committee chairs were approved with unanimous consent.

Approval of Technical Committees

Rugh expressed his pleasure with the fact that most of the Technical Committee Chairs had agreed to continue as chairs for 2001, ensuring continuity. He noted that S. Patek was being nominated for Discrete Event Systems and A. Bicchi for Manufacturing, Automation and Robotic Control Technical Committees, respectively. He also pointed out that a new chair will be appointed for the Variable Structure and Sliding Mode Control Committee in 2001 and BoG's approval will be sought via e-mail. [Secretary's comment: V. Utkin of the Ohio State University was appointed as the chair of the Technical Committee on Variable Structure and Sliding Mode Control through an email vote.]

Editorial Appointments for Transactions on Automatic Control (TCST)

Rugh reminded the BoG that TAC editorial appointments were approved during the June meeting. However, due to unavoidable circumstances, Bernhardsson had decided to step down and as a result, the BoG may be approached at a later date to approve a new Associate Editor (AE) to replace him. Next, he presented the slate of continuing and new AEs for the Transactions on Control Systems Technology. He mentioned that D. Gorinevsky and G. Rosen were joining the editorial board. Several members of the BoG noted that it would be desirable to have

biographies of nominees circulated prior to the meeting for a meaningful discussion. The appointments to TCST were approved with unanimous consent.

Editorial Appointments for Control Systems Magazine (CSM)

Rugh pointed out that the CSM editorial board for 2001 was not brought up for approval during the June meeting; hence, all appointments for 2001 were to be approved during the present meeting. He noted that the biographies of three nominees S. Heise, R. Sanz and Y. Takagi were included with the attachments to the agenda. The BoG approved these appointments with unanimous consent.

Appointment of eletter Editor

Rugh reminded the BoG that it had approved via email that the CSS will officially host the eletter and its editor will be formally appointed by the BoG on an annual basis. He informed the BoG that since the issue of CSS hosting the eletter arose, P. Misra had developed web-based submission and approval software for the same and proposed that he be appointed as the editor for eletter for 2001. The BoG approved the appointment with unanimous consent.

Spong noted that in the past, editors of the three CSS journals were known with different titles. He informed the BoG that during its November meeting, the Executive Committee had decided that for the sake of consistency, editors of all three CSS journals will be referred to as Editor-in-Chief of the corresponding journal, effective immediately. The BoG endorsed the change in titles of journal editors.

Appointments of Liaison Representatives

Rugh noted that most of liaison positions were mandated by earlier BoG decisions and were therefore only information items. However, the remaining positions needed their approval. In addition to existing liaison representatives, he proposed that the CSS have official liaison representatives to the Society of Instrumentation and Control Engineers (SICE) of Japan and European Union Control Association (EUCA). He listed all continuing and incoming liaison representatives to various organizations. New representatives were K.C. Cheok to the IEEE ITS Council, J. Si to the IEEE Neural Network Council and R. Tempo to the EUCA. All liaison representatives were unanimously approved by the BoG. [Secretary's Note: Through an e-mail vote, the BoG approved the appointment of M. Ikeda as the SICE Liaison Representative.]

Awards Subcommittees

The slate for Awards Subcommittee chairs was presented to the BoG; two new chairs were proposed: P. Iglesias for the CDC Best Student-Paper Award and S. Yurkovich for the CSM Outstanding Paper Award. Subcommittee chairs for all five technical CSS awards were approved by unanimous consent of the BoG.

MAB/TAB Subcommittees & External Committees

Rugh reminded the BoG that during the last BoG meeting, Gevers (VP, Membership Activities) had laid out a detailed plan for streamlining the Distinguished Lecturer Program of the society. Accordingly, he proposed that a new subcommittee called Distinguished Lecturer Subcommittee be formed with the Membership Activities Board (MAB) and that B. Wittenmark be approved as the chair of the subcommittee. He also noted that the chair for Technology Review subcommittee with the Technical Activities Board (TAB) was not yet finalized. The BoG approved the formation of the new subcommittee within MAB and appointments of proposed chairs of all MAB and TAB subcommittees with unanimous consent.

Conference Editorial Board

Rugh sought the BoG's approval to reappoint J. Zhu as the chair of the Conference Editorial Board (CEB). The appointment was approved without any discussion. Next, he listed the names of all continuing members (editors) of the CEB along with new appointments for the BoG's approval. Several members of the BoG expressed their discomfort with voting on appointments without virtually any information about the proposed names. Rugh agreed that it would be desirable to have brief biographical sketches of nominees and that in the future, the President-Elect will strive to make them available to the BoG prior to meetings. However, he noted that very frequently CEB appointments are not finalized till very close to the BoG meetings, owing to a very large turnover rate of editorial board members; this makes it impractical to include biographical information ahead of the time. Several members of the BoG offered suggestions for improving the CEB appointment process including closer involvement of the TAB, recommendations from past CEB members and journal associate editors, making biographical sketches available to the BoG members ahead of time failing which, reserve the BoG's right to question appointments. Based on the discussion, Spong offered a friendly amendment to the motion that the BoG, instead of approving the names, endorse the recommendation of CEB member appointments. The modified motion passed with unanimous consent of the BoG.

Formation of a New Technical Committee

Passino moved that a new Technical Committee be formed under the TAB. The committee, Technical Committee on Nonlinear Systems and Control, chaired by A. Teel, will focus on various aspects of nonlinear systems and controls. He informed the BoG that the proposed Chair, A. Teel, had already done a great deal of preliminary groundwork in setting up working groups and contacting leading names in nonlinear system theory to head those working groups. There was a suggestion to bring the existing TC on Variable Structure and Sliding Mode Control under Nonlinear Systems and Control umbrella. However, the suggestion was discarded in view of the fact that the said TC was extremely active and should be permitted to expand its operation without constraining it to a working group. The motion to form the new TC and proposed chair (A. Teel) was approved with unanimous consent.

CDC 2005 General Chair and Venue

Schrader reminded the BoG of the task force to evaluate the feasibility of holding the Conference on Decision and Control (CDC) jointly with the European Control Conference (ECC) in 2005. She summarized the findings of the task force noting various salient points. It was recommended by the task force that Seville, Spain should be the site of the joint CDC/ECC since there were adequate meeting rooms and guest room facilities for an anticipated 1,300 attendees. The administrative structure of the organizing committee should be a balanced representation of the two organizations, with E. Camacho as the overall coordinator. There should be three general chairs, one from each organization and a third one very familiar with both CSS and EUCA. It may be sufficient to have a single program chair; however, there should be co-vice chairs of invited sessions as well as workshops; while it is not necessary to have exactly equal representation of the CSS and the EUCA for the remaining operating committee, a reasonable balance was suggested. Based on the EUCA and the CSS constraints, it was recommended that the budget should address the ECC parameters of a levy (13 Euro) to account for the EUCA operating budget as well as a built in surplus to get the IEEE approval from the CSS viewpoint. The task force had also held discussions on a key related issue of copyrights to the conference proceedings and recommended that the copyrights to the proceedings, produced in a book form, be held by the EUCA with "liberal allowance" to the IEEE. The IEEE has reviewed the agreement and did not have any objection to the arrangement.

With the above background and based on the task force's recommendation, Schrader moved that the 2005 CDC be held jointly with ECC in Spain with Camacho as the General Chair of the joint conference. Pasik-Duncan

expressed her concern regarding closeness of the event to the IFAC Congress in Prague the same year and suggested that the CSS should be more sensitive to such potential conflicts in the future. Tempo assured her that the EUCA was sensitive to the issue, and to accommodate the IFAC Congress had moved the ECC from its traditional time of September of every odd numbered year to December. The BoG was very appreciative of the task force's effort and approved the motion with unanimous consent.

Passino raised the issue of inconsistency in the selection of program chairs for CSS conferences. In particular he noted that while for CDCs, the BoG, albeit informally, approves the program chair, that is not the case for other CSS conferences. To make things uniform, he moved that the BoG formally approve program chairs of all CSS conferences, starting from those conferences for which the program chairs have not yet been appointed. There was general agreement supporting the merit of the proposal. The motion passed with unanimous consent.

CEB Operating Budget Increase

Shaw informed the BoG that since J. Zhu accepted a new position at the Ohio University, the CEB operation had to be moved from Louisiana State University to Ohio University. Due to differences in how Ohio University assesses benefits to salaried employees (in this case support staff for CEB operation) compared to Louisiana State University, the CEB budget was expected to fall short by \$15,000. Accordingly, he moved that a further \$15,000 be added to the CEB operating budget. Several members of the BoG expressed their concern on the growth of CEB budget over last few years, yet recognizing that the proposed amount was necessary for continued operation of the CEB, approved the increased budget by unanimous consent.

Journal Page Budgets

Shaw observed that in the past, the BoG approved a precise page budget for the three journals during the December meeting; the journals were bound by that number in spite of the fact that the IEEE did not require the page budget till May of the following year. In view of this, he proposed that the BoG approve a nominal page budget during the December meeting and allow Editors-in-Chief in conjunction with the Vice President for Publication Activities to give a more accurate number (to within 10% of the approved nominal page budget) to the IEEE in May. He noted that having an accurate page budget will have a positive impact on CSS income from the "All Periodicals Package" that IEEE sells to various libraries and organizations. The proposal to approve a

nominal page budget with flexibility of changing it by 10% was approved with unanimous consent of the BoG.

The approval of the page budget was followed by a general discussion about the state of CSS journals. Cassandras expressed his satisfaction with the reduced publication delay resulting in higher number of submissions. He also informed the BoG that various inconsistencies and errors introduced in recent TAC issues due to a change of editorial staff at the IEEE were now well under control. Samad highlighted major changes in the look and feel of the magazine and noted several new columns that had been initiated.

Revised Subscription Rates for CSS Journals

Shaw moved that the annual membership dues as well as member subscription rates for all CSS journals remain unchanged from their 2001 levels. Further, non-member subscription rates for CSS publications during the year 2002 be set at the following levels: TAC - \$550, TCST - \$220 and CSM - \$180. He noted that compared to other control related journals, the proposed small increases in rates of the two latter publications were still a bargain for subscribers and at the same time, they were closer to rates recommended by the IEEE for non-member subscribers. During the ensuing discussion, there were some concerns about a possible drop in non-member subscriptions due to increased rates. Shaw assured the members of the BoG that it is not likely to impact subscriptions in any noticeable way, given the fact that the proposed rates were considerably below the market rates for comparable journals. The revised rates were approved by unanimous consent.

Endowment for Control Systems Field Award

Shaw reminded the BoG of the decision taken during the last BoG meeting to examine whether or not CSS can endow the Control Systems Field Award. Based on his inquiries and discussions with IEEE staff, he determined that it was indeed feasible to endow the award. He moved that CSS transfer \$260,000 from the CSS reserves to the IEEE Foundation as an endowment to fund the annual IEEE Control Systems Field Award. He clarified that the interest at approximately 5 percent per year from the endowment will be sufficient to cover the annual cost of the award including \$10,000 check, a bronze medal, plaque, award ceremony brochure, totaling about \$13,000 per year. He clarified that following BoG approval, the CSS will have to petition the IEEE Board to approve this transfer, and the IEEE Foundation to agree to manage the endowment for the society.

Başar noted that this is a judicious use of CSS reserves of roughly \$3.5 million and mentioned that if there were

suggestions for putting CSS reserves to use for improving membership services, it would be very useful, especially in view of the fact that the IEEE may levy a large fee on CSS in proportion to its reserves due to their income shortfalls. In answer to questions from the BoG, Shaw clarified that once the money has been endowed, it cannot be returned to the CSS reserves, nor used for any purpose other than to support the Field Award.

Approval of Increase in Resnik Field Award

Başar reminded the BoG that apart from the Control Systems Field Award, the CSS also was a financial co-sponsor (along with the Aerospace and Electronic Systems Society; and the Engineering in Medicine and Biology Society) of the Judith Resnik Field Award. IEEE had recommended that the cash award associated with all Field Awards be raised to \$10,000. To meet that recommendation and to continue being a financial co-sponsor of the award, the CSS will need to double its contribution from the present level. Accordingly, he moved that the BoG approve raising the CSS financial contribution to the Resnik Field Award from the present level of approximately \$1,667 to \$3,334 per year - contingent upon similar increases by the other two co-sponsoring societies.

Several members of the BoG expressed their ignorance about the award and inquired as to some details about the scope and involvement of the CSS in it. Shaw clarified that the award was established to honor astronaut Judith Resnik who died in the Challenger Space Shuttle accident and has a fairly broad scope of contributions to space engineering within fields relevant to IEEE. He noted that the award had not been given in last two years due to lack of nominations. Başar recommended that the CSS TC on Aerospace Systems should actively nominate CSS members for the award. Subsequent to discussion, the motion to raise CSS contribution towards the Resnik Field Award passed with unanimous consent.

[Secretary's Note: Subsequent to the BoG meeting, due to BoG approval was sought and received to appoint A. Bemporad as an Associate Editor for the TAC]

Reports

Report of the President

Başar opened his remarks by commenting on the general status of the CSS. He expressed his general satisfaction with the state of affairs of the society, noting in particular that the CSS conferences have been very successful; the official web site of the society had improved considerably over last few months; the initiative on digital archiving of all CSS journals was well underway; the CSS was now

officially hosting eletter, the monthly electronic newsletter; the centennial volume of benchmark papers in controls, entitled "*Control Theory: Twenty Five Seminal Papers (1932-1981)*" was in press. He noted with dismay the only dark spot in an otherwise bright year was due to IEEE finances. It was becoming increasingly clear that shortfall in IEEE income will result in CSS losing up to 15% of its reserves to bail out IEEE. He assured the BoG that the IEEE TAB was very concerned about headquarter spending and had been actively working on ways to contain expenses incurred by various activity boards and the Board of Directors.

He thanked the Awards Committee for their diligence in having the winners in place well ahead of the CDC so they could be informed well in advance and help them make their travel plans. He reminded the BoG that the awards ceremony will be held prior to the conference banquet and urged them to attend the ceremony.

Next, Başar invited chairs of task forces to present brief reports to the BoG.

Shaw, chair of Task Force on CSS Awards thanked M. Gevers, K. Passino and W. Perkins for assisting with updating the CSS Awards Manual. He noted that the descriptions of the CSS awards are available on the CSS web-site, and that the full document, including procedures for setting up awards selection committees, notification of winners, preparation of awards plaques, etc. is available from the Awards Committee Chair (H. McClamroch). He also mentioned that the committee was considering making the nomination process for all awards web-based, thereby making it easier for CSS members to nominate worthy candidates for various CSS awards.

Başar had also formed a task force to examine the possibility of the CSS hosting and disseminating the electronic newsletter "eletter", when he learned that editors A. Stoorvogel and S. Weiland wanted to step down. Chaired by Spong, the task force was charged with determining whether it was feasible and desirable for the CSS to officially host eletter as well as the Systems and Control Archive at Dallas (SCAD) database. Spong thanked members, Baillieul, Misra and Samad for their help. He informed the BoG that the task force had several discussions over email and also solicited input from Stoorvogel. The outcome of this discussion led to the email vote of the BoG in November 2000 when they approved that the CSS host the eletter and approved establishing a new position of eletter editor be established with necessary expenditures to support both the transition and the long term maintenance of the eletter. Based on task force discussion, he also recommended that the CSS take on the responsibility of maintaining the SCAD database. He also recommended a name change for the

SCAD since it would no longer be housed at UT-Dallas. The name Systems and Control Archival Database was proposed, which preserved the SCAD acronym to which people have become accustomed. The proposed name was endorsed by the BoG.

Next, Başar requested B. Pasik-Duncan to present a brief report on the Task Force on Globalization. Pasik-Duncan highlighted some of the initiatives she had undertaken in the capacity of chair of task force. She mentioned that globalization is not necessarily without, but also within. To this end, she had been working with the National Science Foundation (NSF) to hold conferences for high school teachers to make them more aware of what control systems have to offer to their students. She requested that the CSS officially endorse the on-going effort of NSF in trying to increase awareness about control systems among students before they attend college. She noted that chapters in Europe and Australia have been very appreciative of CSS activities in their regions and recommended that there be better representation in CSS administration from those regions. She also presented highlights from her visit to China under the auspice of the "People to People Ambassador Program" and recommended that the CSS be actively involved in such exchange programs.

Finally, Başar requested Passino to present a summary of the report produced by the Task Force on Public Information, Education and Promotion of Control Systems. Passino described the objective of the task force as a determination of means and vehicles to disseminate information to the general public about the impact of control systems technology. The task force recommended that the web be used to the maximum possible extent to present videos of where control systems technology plays a key role. Additionally, the CSS should form a liaison with other societies with common goals. Instrumentation, Systems, and Automation Society should perhaps consider hosting a booth at the annual meeting. Finally, it recommended that the society should consider putting out press releases prepared by professional publicists. Following the report, there was considerable discussion on the subject including suggestions about holding competitions along the line of aerial robotics, robot wars, etc. because such events invite media attention. The BoG was in agreement that more should be done on the publicity front and a clear, focussed approach to achieve it should be devised.

Report of the President-Elect

Rugh made brief remarks about long range planning activities and noted that they were mainly concerned with the functioning and enhancement of the CEB. However, since the CEB moved from Louisiana to Ohio, most of

the planning had to be shelved temporarily since any recommendations would not be implemented till the transition was complete. He reminded the BoG that the next American Control Conference (ACC) in Arlington was a Monday-Wednesday (June 25-27, 2001) affair which would require some modifications to typical CSS meetings scheduled during ACCs. Additionally he noted two other events, a luncheon to honor L. Ho on Saturday of the previous week and an IFAC council meeting on Wednesday and Thursday of the conference week. He suggested that in view of these constraints, the next BoG meeting will be at 1:00 p.m. on the Sunday (June 24, 2001) prior to the ACC.

Report of the VP-Financial Activities

Shaw pointed out that primary sources of income for the CSS were membership dues, subscription fees for its publications, possible surpluses from conferences that it sponsors, and interest on its reserve funds. Its expenses include publications costs for its journals and magazine, awards for outstanding achievements in technical areas related to control systems, annual dues to the American Automatic Control Council (AACC), administrative costs, support for chapter activities, and possible deficits from conferences. He pointed out that due to conservative fiscal policies and good fortune with long term investments, the accumulated annual surpluses from the reserves of cash and long-term investments now amount to more than \$3.5 million. At the same time he cautioned the BoG that during the past two years due to income shortfalls, the IEEE Board had contemplated directing some funds from the reserves of individual societies to fund corporate operations and/or not crediting all of the income from a society's reserves back to that society.

For the present year, the budget forecast on October 1, 2000 estimated a surplus of \$107 K. The surplus will be erased and in fact CSS will have a net deficit in case the IEEE assesses a proposed surcharge of \$235 K to support corporate IEEE activities. Next, he highlighted the main parameters of the 2001 budget that was already approved by the BoG in the June meeting. These included: \$25 K to support travel to conferences of paper presenters from "developing countries;" \$150 K for scanning legacy paper transactions and magazines to make them available in the digital IEEE Xplore system; an approximately 10% increase in the non-member subscription rate for journals. An additional increase of \$15 K for the Conference Editorial Board, and a new expense of \$12 K for increased web-based information dissemination, and a transfer of \$260 K from the reserves to form an endowment with the IEEE Foundation to fund the Control Systems Field Award.

Finally, Shaw urged all committee chairs attending the BoG meeting, to alert him of discrepancies in what their committee is billed by the ACC or CDC for the meetings held during those conferences. He noted that several such discrepancies had been brought to his notice after the last ACC in Chicago.

Report of the VP-Technical Activities

Passino noted that reports of various committees within the Technical Activities Board (TAB) were sent to the BoG for their review. He noted that TCs on Power Systems, CACSD and Automotive Control had significant activity during the past several months. He thanked the BoG for having been given the opportunity to serve as the Vice President for Technical Activities. He summarized some of the major activities undertaken by the TAB during his tenure of two years. These included: a major reorganization of TAB through an ad-hoc TAB evaluation committee he had formed when he became the vice president, along with the formation of four new Technical Committees - TCs on BioSystems and Control, Variable Structure and Sliding Mode Control, Automotive Controls, Nonlinear Systems and Control. He also noted that several of the TCs had their individual web pages and were actively updating them. He wished Baillieul luck with his term as the Vice President for Technical Activities.

Report of the VP-Conference Activities

Schrader referred the BoG to her report in the attachments sent along with the agenda for updates on various conferences. She informed the BoG that hotel contracts for CDC 2002 as well as CDC 2003 had been signed and all conferences seemed to be on target. She also suggested that CSS members should use the CSS homepage on the web for the latest listing of conferences sponsored or co-sponsored by the CSS.

Report of the VP-Publication Activities

Spong summarized publications related activities of the society in the last few months. He expressed his satisfaction with the improved recent support from the IEEE publications department that supports the Transactions on Automatic Control (TAC), recalling that for the past several months, there had been a larger than acceptable number of errors in the transactions. Fortunately, he noted, that the transition or personnel at the IEEE publications department was now complete and that future issues of the TAC should be published on schedule and without very many typographical and other errors due to lack of oversight. He complimented Cassandras for adopting a firm stand with IEEE with regard to their less than professional performance. He

informed the BoG that the Transactions on Control Systems Technology (TCST) had successfully implemented a web based submission and review process and that the TCST now had a single Editor-in-Chief since the removal to the co-editor position. For the Control Systems Magazine, Samad listed several upcoming special issues on networks, biosystems, control education, agricultural applications etc and expressed his overall satisfaction with the status of the magazine.

Next, Spong alluded to a task force that Başar has put in place to address issues pertaining to electronic archiving of all CSS journals. He noted that the vendor being used by the CSS - Parity Computing, will implement an extensive verification process to ensure that the archives will have as few errors as possible, in contents as well as cross listing of articles. As the archives become available, the task force will review the contents of the archives to validate them. Cassandras noted that on the related issue of IEEE Xplore, to which the CSS archive will eventually be linked, there were inconsistencies. Specifically, he mentioned that whenever he logged in to browse through the archives, he was given arbitrarily different access - restricted in some instances and unrestricted on others. He also mentioned that several people from industries joined the CSS to access CSS conference proceedings on Xplore, but were denied access. Başar requested Baillieul to investigate the issue since he was intimately involved with issues pertaining to Xplore at the IEEE level. Başar informed the BoG that S. Engell (co-editor of the TCST from its inception to June 2000) was awarded a plaque to thank him for his services, and also announced that the CSS publications were considered to be premier quality as evidenced by their "impact factor" roughly translated as the ratio of the number of papers in a publication and the number of references made to its articles. He congratulated Editors-in-Chief for maintaining very high standards of published articles in their respective journals.

Report of the VP-Membership Activities

On behalf of Gevers, Rugh presented the BoG an update on the Travel Support Program for CSS conference attendees from developing countries. He noted that the program was now in place and publicity had begun through eletter and CSS webpages. Spong expressed his concerns regarding one of the requirements in obtaining travel support, viz., CSS members from the organizing committee are ineligible for travel support; this directly impacted situations such as the 2001 Conference on Control Applications to be held in Mexico. Mexico being one of the countries eligible for travel support under the guidelines. Pasik-Duncan inquired about the motivation behind another clause which disqualified CSS members from countries eligible for travel support from serving on the subcommittee that evaluates the applications. Rugh assured the BoG that the concerns presented at the meeting will be conveyed to Gevers for his consideration.

Report of the Secretary Administrator

Misra thanked the CSS BoG for allowing him the opportunity to serve as the Secretary-Administrator for the society. Başar presented him a plaque to thank him for his services. He announced that the next BoG meeting will be held in Arlington, VA, USA on Sunday, June 24, 2001 at 1:00 p.m., preceded by lunch.

Adjournment

The members of the BoG thanked Başar for his leadership during 2000. In turn, Başar thanked the members of the Board of Governors and visitors for attending the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.