



Action items and report of the
Fall meeting of the
Dutch URSI Committee
November 20th, 2017
TU/e.

Distribution list:

Participants :	For information:
<ul style="list-style-type: none">- M.J. Bentum (chair) [MJB] – TU/e/ASTRON- R. Serra (secretary, minutes) [RS] – TU/e- W.C. van Etten [WvE] – UT emeritus- F. Leferink [FL] – UT/Thales- J. Steenge [JS] – AT- F. Uysal [FU] – TUD- P. Zwamborn [PZ] – TNO- M. Brentjens [MB] – ASTRON- M. Matters [MM] – TU/e	All NUC members

	Organisatie / Organization	Datum / Date
Auteur(s) / Author(s): R. Serra	Netherlands URSI Committee	November 27 th , 2017
Goedkeuring / Approval: NUC	Netherlands URSI Committee	

© Netherlands URSI Committee 2017
All rights are reserved. Reproduction in whole or in part is
prohibited without written consent of the copyright owner.



1 Opening

MJB opened the meeting at 13:00 and welcomed everybody. He thanks TU/e for hosting this meeting and the lunch. We received apologies from many of the NUC members.

A special welcome for the new member Faruk Uysal from TUD. Faruk has been appointed assistant professor a year ago and he is working in collaboration with Alex Yarovoy in radar applications.

A special welcome also to the new member Michiel Brentjens from ASTRON. Michiel is a radio astronomer specialized in radio interferometry and polarimetry.

Also a special welcome for Marion Matters. Marion is a full professor at the TU/e on the area of Terahertz Electronics for Imaging and Spectroscopy.

The attendees introduce themselves briefly.

2 Agenda

No comments on the agenda

3 Minutes and action items of the spring meeting in April 2017

The minutes of the spring meeting were discussed. A remark is made on point 11 (p. 5). WvE has a different impression of the contents of this point. Stefan Wijnholds will take over with this point. The document was written and presented by Arnold van Ardenne and WvE.

Action items:

#52: there are new members FU, MB, MM. In the past, becoming an NUC member was automatic if one joined an URSI meeting, event, etc. You could never be an individual member of URSI. Only countries were member of URSI. URSI changed this recently and now it is possible to apply for it. Contribution to URSI in any practical way is necessary. The number of members worldwide is significantly low at this moment: ~150.

#55, #59: PZ has no time to work on these. He will pick it up later.

There is a general comment on the necessity of having sponsors. WvE will distribute a new list of possible sponsors as well as the urge that NUC members will work on the sponsors.

#70, #88: MJB will ask BS about these points.

#73, #74: MJB will ask Truus to implement these.



#79: the recent new members have contributed to larger NUC meetings. There is a proposal to add more interesting activities together with the NUC members like, for instance, a visit to a company or institution, a workshop or event, etc. Thales is a candidate for hosting the spring meeting¹.

#80: No progress.

#86: KNAW used to be a sponsor of URSI-NL. They would not support URSI w.r.t. funding but rather by supporting activities, as in-kind contributions like using their facilities, rooms, etc.

#92: point closed.

#94 – #95: The next URSI Benelux Forum is being organized by FU at TUD to be held on January 25th, 2018. Points closed.

A comment: There was a proposal to merge the three countries (the Netherlands, Belgium and Luxembourg) under one URSI committee, but Belgium has no interest at this moment for such merger. There was also a proposal to consider organizing a URSI GASS for 2023 or later, but, yet again, there is no interest from Belgium to do so.

#96: MB will participate as NUC representative in the “Wetenschappelijk frequentie gebruik” meetings, coordinated by JS. Point closed.

#97: SW will take over this point. Responsible changed in the action list.

4 Announcements

MJB moved to TU/e and became a Professor in the EM group chaired by BS. He is also working at ASTRON.

5 Financial status

The importance of finding sponsors who support our contribution to URSI is stressed. Being a voting member is considered important. The funds should also enable us to organize scientific activities in the broad area of radio science.

a. Budget 2017

The invoice to TUD hasn't been issued. FU will talk to AY to see if TUD will contribute. ***New action point.***

Contribution from NERG give us some “oxygen”. We have this contribution to do scientific activities. Justify our existence. Think about such activities.

a. Sponsoring

¹ By the time of composing these minutes, this meeting has been defined. It'll take place at Thales on April 16th starting at 12:30 with the NUC meeting, followed by a guided tour and social drinks.



Comments: Why is it so difficult for companies to sponsor URSI? What can companies gain from sponsoring URSI? Visibility mainly. Access to young scientists. But companies can have access to young talents without being a sponsor. Companies could have a more relevant role in our two main activities: night with KIVI and the Forum. Send direct invitations to our sponsors for these activities and to companies in general. Offer to publish their logos in the URSI web site.

Possible idea: to organize a “sponsoring event” (dinner, etc.).

We need ~5.5k€ (contribution to Ghent + some activities) per year.

Maybe we can think about what is the contribution we want to give to URSI general?

URSI being more “scientific” (more than other institutes/organizations such as IEEE, etc.) gives URSI a difficult time to raise funds from companies. We could also look for companies working in materials, for instance, or other topics not specifically “radio” but they are somehow being related to RF with the new developments, etc.

KNMI could be even interested in sponsoring, providing support, etc. something on space weather.

Possible topics for an event: materials, space weather, EMC. Workshops? Action items: think about topics for such activity: materials (MM), space weather (MB), EMC (RS). **New action items.**

6 SWAN

WvE will distribute the sponsors list, extend the list, catch new sponsors, etc. **New action item.**

7 Looking back

URSI General Assembly and Scientific Symposium

The URSI GASS was held in Montréal August 2017. Some of us were there. Very interesting meeting, well attended. Bad experience of doing it in Montréal. Only water in poster sessions. No drinks in the dinner. Lunch was not included.

Next GASSs: 2020 in Rome, 2023 in Sapporo.

A new inter-joint commission on space weather has been formalized.

All papers of the GASS are on IEEEXplore.

8 URSI Benelux Forum – TU Delft – January 25th, 2018

FU: The call for posters has been distributed. No news so far, but it's too early. FU will define the agenda of the Forum soon.

MM: proposes Gomez, someone working in EM, sensors, etc. for a keynote speech.



We should try to organize better the best poster prizes. Name a good committee. Start the procedure in advance, define the criteria (contents, style, presenter, etc.)

9 Meeting with KIVI

Once per year we have a meeting, symposium-like, ~50 people attending. Someone wants to organize this? Relate it to the proposals for sponsoring. MJB will contact KIVI. See if they are interested. We can propose to “replicate” the GASS with the Dutch who attended. Somewhere in March/April².

10 Overleg wetenschappelijk frequentie gebruik

JS gave a nice and thorough overview of the activities of this forum.

11 Planning/brainstorm other activities in 2017

Many points scattered throughout the minutes containing ideas for activities.

12 Board of the Netherlands URSI Committee

SW is a candidate to succeed MJB as a chair of URSI NL. SW is willing to take over. The nomination needs a vote. No one objects and so we welcome SW as the new chair. We thank MJB for his dedicated service to URSI NL and we hope he continues contributing as a member.

13 AOB

PZ: safeguarding of the spectrum has been raised. We can discuss it in the next meeting.

JS will ask internally if AT can become a sponsor.

14 Closing

Meeting closes at 15:00.

15 New action item list

No.	Action item	Responsible	Deadline
52	Look for new NUC members	All	-
55	Contact Agilent for sponsoring	PZ	Next meeting
59	Contact NOVEC for sponsoring	PZ	Next meeting

² By the time of compiling these minutes, the URSI-KIVI meeting had been defined. It will be held at Aristo in Utrecht on March 13th, 2018 in the evening.



70	Contact HOLST for sponsoring	BS	Next meeting
73	Add logos of the sponsors to the website	MJB	ASAP
74	Create secure part of website for minutes etc.	MJB	ASAP
76	Think about extra events of the NUC in 2015	All	Next meeting
79	Try to improve attendance to URSI meetings	MJB & RS	Next meeting
80	Appoint an award committee (A. de Hoop)	BS, AvA, MJB	Next meeting
88	Contact Ampleon for sponsorship	BS	ASAP
90	Contact IMEC for new URSI members	t.b.d.	
91	Contact NLR for new URSI members	t.b.d.	
97	Write a memo on the URSI-IEEE discussion. What are the differences, what is the overlap, what is the sustainability of URSI etc...	SW	Spring meeting 2017
98	See if TUD keeps contributing as a sponsor	FU	ASAP
99	Propose an event with the topic of "Materials" that could be interesting for companies in sponsoring URSI	MM	
100	Propose an event with the topic of "Space Weather" that could be interesting for companies in sponsoring URSI	MB	
101	Propose an event with the topic of "EMC" that could be interesting for companies in sponsoring URSI	RS	
102	Work on the sponsors list that will be send by WvE	WvE/All	Next meeting