

SIAG Nonlinear Waves and Coherent and Structures Business Meeting Minutes
Wednesday 23 July 2008
SIAM Conference NW08 in Rome, Italy

Approximately 25 SIAG members attended the business meeting; SIAM was represented by Linda Thiel.

Reports:

* The SIAG has applied for charter renewal, which was granted by the SIAM council.

* The SIAG has currently 202 members. Event though the group has grown steadily since its inception in 2001, it is still one of the three smallest activity groups within SIAM. Action: Participants of the Rome conference who are not currently SIAM or SIAG members will be contacted to encourage them to become members.

* The SIAM conference in Rome was attended by approximately 280 participants. Previous meetings sponsored by the SIAG took place in Orlando in 2004 and Seattle in 2006 with approximately 200 and 250 participants, respectively. The Rome conference did, unfortunately, not include a poster session as only 5 posters were submitted (the presenters gave contributed talks instead).

* The training workshop on "Multidimensional localized structures" that took place prior to the conference in Rome was attended by approximately 50 participants of which 35 were students and postdocs. This workshop was supported by the NSF through a conference grant.

Other items of business:

* The next slate of SIAG officers for the 2009-2010 term will be elected this Autumn. The nominating committee consists of

Mac Hyman (Chair)
Alejandro Aceves
Arjen Doelman
Bjorn Sandstede.

Please forward nominations for officers to a member of the nominating committee.

* SIAG conference in 2010: This meeting will be held in the US. There was an overwhelming preference among the attending SIAG members to hold the next meeting in late August 2010 on a University campus: we are in the process of identifying colleagues who are willing to organize this meeting.

It was suggested that the SIAG should encourage participation from scientists working in acoustics, oceanography/atmospheric sciences, seismology, solid mechanics, fluids, and plasmas. Another suggestion was to organize a public lecture as part of the next conference.

Two topics were suggested for the training workshop in 2010:

- Periodic waves (Bloch, lattices, ...)
- Stochastic wave equations

Other suggestions are welcome!

Palma de Mallorca/Spain was put forward by Damia Gomila as a possible location for the meeting in 2012.

* The SIAG will organize a track (consisting of a plenary lecture and invited minisymposia) at the next SIAM Annual Meeting in Denver (6-10 July 2009).

* A SIAG website will be implemented during Autumn. It will include a conference/workshop calendar. If you wish to have specific conferences or other events listed, please contact Bjorn Sandstede.

* There was strong support for introducing a SIAG Prize for the best PhD thesis defended within 3 years of the conference at which the prize is awarded. The prize itself would consist of a plenary lecture at the SIAG conference (and reimbursement of the costs to attend the conference). It would be helpful to get a better idea of the support for this idea before a formal request is made to the SIAM Council to create such a prize. Whether you agree or disagree with this idea, please let me know as soon as possible. If there is much dissent, we should discuss this again at the next business meeting.

Best wishes, Bjorn Sandstede

SIAG Officers:

Chair: Bjorn Sandstede (bjorn_sandstede@brown.edu)
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