

Meeting notes for TG 1.13, January 29, 2017

Meeting time: 1:00p - 3:00p.

Meeting location: Turin Ballroom, Caesar's Palace

Meeting opened at 1:15 by Vikrant Aute, chair.

Members attending: Vikrant Aute (Univ. of Maryland), Steve Treado (Penn State), S.A. Sherif (Univ. of Florida), Peter Armstrong (Masdar), Omar Abdelaziz (ORNL), Chris Laughman (MERL), Amir Jokar (Exponent), Zheng O'Neill (U. Alabama), Joe Furman (Automated Logic), Jin Dong (ORNL), Dennis Nasuta (Optimized Thermal Systems).

There were 5 voting members present.

1:22: The minutes from St. Louis were approved 5/0/2/0, chair voting (Peter Armstrong motion, Chris Laughman second).

Chair's Report (Vikrant Aute):

1. ASHRAE has a new technology portal (<http://technologyportal.ashrae.org>) that provides free access to ASHRAE journal articles and research reports.
2. There is also a new authoring portal for writing collaborative documents - it appears to be a customized version of MS Office365. It would be helpful to keep ASHRAE publication development on this platform, as it appears that Dropbox does not observe copyright. Vikrant has requested an account for our TC so that we can work on the handbook chapter.
3. ASHRAE is looking for technology-heavy articles.
4. There is a new ASHRAE glossary that is available - it defines 4200 terms, and is maintained by TC 1.6. For example, there are 21 different definitions currently available for standard air. This could be useful for the development of the handbook chapter.
5. CEC provided statistics for attendance at the Las Vegas meeting. There are also ongoing issues with presenters not uploading their presentations on time. In addition, there are plans to implement new program components - debates and panel discussions - that can be proposed to ASHRAE.
6. ASHRAE is having a difficult time getting reviewers for their technical papers, partly due to the fact that they have no persistent list. Chris Laughman suggested adding a radio button to ASHRAE member profiles that would indicate whether or not the person wanted to be a reviewer; this could be connected with either TCs or the technical specialties that are also already connected to the ASHRAE profile. Members could thus check the radio button when they wanted to review papers and uncheck it if they didn't want to.
7. Deadlines: Feb 6 for seminars for Long Beach and March 1 for conference paper abstracts and technical papers for Chicago.
8. The journal Science and Technology for the Built Environment is free during 2017 for all ASHRAE members.
9. There is one new MTG since the last society meeting pertaining to the determination of air change rates (ACRs), in which they are seeking to evaluate the technical basis for establishing ACRs for clean rooms, operating rooms, etc. This MTG has 13 contributing organizations, including 3 non-ASHRAE organizations) that are participating.
10. There is a new manual for TC meetings that will be issued after Las Vegas. Omar commented that many people in our TC do not have updated email addresses.
11. Encouragement for people to attend the on-site training meetings. For example, Zheng O'Neill should be updated so that she can attend the PC training in Las Vegas.

12. Updates to the TC roster and the activity sheet should be provided to the section head by 9pm on Tuesday.
13. The website should be updated within 60 days of this meeting.
14. RAC is prioritizing research that improves residential energy performance.
15. Steve Treado offered a comment about the new program guide with a smaller format - while he likes its smaller size, it is unfortunate that it does not contain the names of the authors and presenters. It would be helpful to include this in future programs.

Section Head Report:

1. ASHRAE is looking for tracks for the Houston 2018 meeting. Those should be contributed by Feb 20. A proposed title of a track is "Optimization in HVAC+R Systems". Vikrant has already talked to TCs 1.4, 1.5, 1.13, and 7.5. Omar can contact TCs 1.3, 8.4, and 8.5, and 8.11. Peter Armstrong can contact TC 7.5, and Chris Laughman can talk to TC 8.7. We should also get the refrigeration subcommittee and 10.7. Vikrant will put together a proposal and circulate it.
2. ASHRAE would like to understand the number of people who attend the TCs who have also registered for the ASHRAE meeting. One method of doing this could be providing a method of recording the meeting attendance on a web form under each TC; each TC website could have a means of inputting the meeting attendance by checking radio buttons associated with each TC member on the roster, as well as a set of open boxes so that the secretary could input the list of TC nonmembers who attended their meeting. Once the list of members was input to the system, this could be matched against ASHRAE's list of conference registrants. This would have the benefit of providing statistics to ASHRAE about TC attendance without requiring each meeting attendee to check in, with all of the hardware and human factor difficulties that would accompany such an approach.
3. When Zheng O'Neill and Vikrant Aute get the list of programs, they need to check not only that the seminars that are proposed actually come from the TC, but also whether or not any sessions that do not have any sponsoring TC listed are relevant.

Program Committee Subchair Report:

Zheng could not attend this meeting due to a conflict with a seminar presentation, so Omar provided this information.

1. Omar Abdelaziz made a comment that there are a lot of conference paper sessions that use the term "optimization" in the title that do not actually do any optimization. In his opinion, CEC should contact our TC whenever any such title is proposed so that we can provide feedback and review it to ensure that the word optimization is not used loosely. Action item: we should send an email to CEC to raise the point that the word "optimization" is being used incorrectly and is causing confusion, and that our TC would be happy to review session titles and abstracts to provide feedback. An example would be particularly useful in this context.
2. We discussed the possibility of having Zheng coordinate a seminar for Long Beach; Omar offered to present a seminar on refrigerant selection optimization, Chris Laughman can present a seminar on the circuitry optimization of heat exchangers, and Vikrant Aute and/or Dennis Nasuta could potentially contribute as well. One or two other people would be beneficial as well.
3. It would also be beneficial to present a workshop in Chicago on the handbook chapter. This proposal doesn't have to be submitted until August, but we will need to do some extensive work ahead of time so that there is something to present at the workshop.
4. Peter Armstrong is interested in pulling together a conference paper session on optimal building operation for demand response for Chicago. This would also be co-sponsored by TC 7.5. Omar will ask Teja Kuruganti and Joshua New if they are interested in submitting papers by March 1.
5. Peter Armstrong motion to approve program, Chris Laughman second, 5/0/2/0 approved, chair voting.

Website Subchair Report:

We should be careful about what we post on the website to ensure that we don't include any copyrighted information. The website should be updated with the recent meeting notes.

Handbook Subchair Report:

We need to form a good chapter outline for the handbook chapter. The proposed subcommittee members are Omar A., Steve T., Chris L., Peter A., and Vikrant. Vikrant can chair this subcommittee as long as there is good support from the committee members. Vikrant will set up a phone committee meeting or web meeting after we get space on the ASHRAE document portal. ASHRAE HQ (morts@ashrae.org) can set up this meeting.

Membership Subchair Report:

Peter Armstrong, Zheng O'Neill, Michael Wetter, and Vikrant Aute are rolling off as voting members on this committee. Zheng has agreed to continue as the program subcommittee chair. Peter Armstrong will be the committee chair starting in July, while Chris Laughman will become the vice-chair. We will have to find a secretary when we are in Long Beach. Steve Treado and Dave Yashar will roll on as voting members of this committee; Vikrant will be the Handbook chair as a corresponding member, while Zheng will be the Program chair as a corresponding member.

New Business:

Omar suggests that we should work to increase visibility of the TC so that we can increase our membership. A back-to-basics seminar could be useful to this end, in which we provide some tutorial-type presentations that describe the means of using optimization for HVAC&R problems. This could also be focused on the process of doing the design of experiments. It would be helpful to synchronize this development with the handbook chapter.

2:57 5/0/2/0 motion to adjourn, Peter move, Chris second.