Report of the Society Program Oversight Committee
Submitted by Bob Eberlein, committee member
July 10, 2012

Summary

The Society Program Oversight Committee (SPOC) recommends that it be reconstituted as a Standing committee with a set of guidelines adopted for its ongoing function. To this end 3 motions are being made for the 2012 Summer Policy Council meeting: 1) That, consistent with the recommendation of the Organization and Bylaws committee, the Society's Policies be modified to make the SPOC a standing committee; 2) That six members with staggered terms be appointed to the SPOC; 3) That the ISDC program guidelines (in Supplementary Material) be adopted and the SPOC be asked to maintain and update them.

Report

The Society Program Oversight Committee (SPOC) was created in order to provide continuity to the process of managing the program at our conferences. As such is included all members of overlapping Program Committees as well as a number of Society Officers. The size of the committee has meant that its activities have been diffuse and effectively driven by the person willing to act as the committee Chair, a task taken on by Rogelio Oliva for the past several years.

Since this is an important committee that has a composition and mandate outside that of Ad-Hoc committees the proposed revision to Policies that was submitted during the Winter PC meeting makes the SPOC a Standing Committee:

"<u>The Society Program Oversight Committee</u> shall consist of six members, three of whom are former or current Conference Program Chairs, serving staggered three year terms. It shall recommend future Program Chairs to the Policy Council. It is responsible for overseeing and reviewing the performance of Program Committee members and the types and nature of sessions to be presented at the conference as well as the topic areas around which conferences are organized."

This suggestion changes the membership from one with a large number of ex-officio members to a more manageable six with staggered terms. While it likely makes sense to include the Vice President Meetings on the committee, as well Program Chairs, those people would need to be duly appointed (by the Policy Council on the recommendation of the President).

Rogelio, as the previous chair of the SPOC, authored a set of conference program development guidelines that detail the duties of the Program Committee, including the Program Chairs and Thread Chairs, as well as that of the SPOC in appointing the Program Committee, revising the thread structure and advising on Program Structure. Those guidelines should be recognized by the Policy Council.

The following motions will be put forth during the Summer PC meeting:

Motion 1: To change the policies of the Society to include the SPOC as a Standing Committee with the following description of its membership and mandate:

"The Society Program Oversight Committee shall consist of six members, three of whom are former or current Conference Program Chairs, serving staggered three year terms. It shall recommend future Program Chairs to the Policy Council. It is responsible for overseeing and reviewing the performance of Program Committee members and the types and nature of sessions to be presented at the conference as well as the topic areas around which conferences are organized."

This is a change to the Policies and requires a 3/5th vote.

Motion 2: To appoint to the SPOC the following members with their listed terms of membership:

Len Malczynski 2012-2012
Ed Anderson 2012-2012
David Lane 2012-2013
David Ford 2012-2013
Robert Eberlein 2012-2014
Andreas Größler 2012-2104

Motion 3: To adopt the ISDC Program Guidelines and ask that they be updated regularly and recorded at each Winter Policy Council Meeting with substantive changes requiring a vote of the PC for approval.