



MINUTES OF THE 2023 IEEE NUCLEAR AND PLASMA SCIENCES SOCIETY (NPSS) NUCLEAR  
MEDICAL AND IMAGING SCIENCES COUNCIL (NMISC) MID-YEAR TELE-CONFERENCE

DATE: MONDAY, JUNE 19<sup>TH</sup>, 2023, 4PM – 6PM (US EAST COAST DAYLIGHT TIME ZONE)

LOCATION: ONLINE ZOOM MEETING

MEETING ID: 957 8892 7390 (PASSCODE: NMISC2023)

***Voting Members:***

*Executive*

Andrew Goertzen (NMISC Chair)

Youngho Seo (NMISC Vice Chair)

Roger Fulton (NMISC Past Chair, NMISC Awards-Fellows Sub-Committee Chair)

***NMISC Term ending 2023***

*Dimitra Darambara*

*Andrea Gonzalez Montoro*

*Hamid Sabet*

*Emilie Roncali*

*Volkmar Schultz*

***NMISC Term ending 2024:***

Esther Giarrocchi

Arman Rahmim

Mitra Safavi-Naeini

Hideaki Tashima



Larry Zeng

***NMISC Term ending 2025:***

Alexandre Bousse,

Yong Du,

Georgios Konstantiniou,

Sun Il Kwon,

Irene Polycarpou

***Non-Voting Members:***

Steve Meikle (NPSS President)

Robert Miyaoka (AdCom representative)

Jae Sung Lee (AdCom representative)

Lorenzo Fabris & Merry Keyser (Valentin T. Jordanov and Trainee Award Committee co-Chairs)

Dimitris Visvikis (TRPMS Editor in Chief)

Vesna Sossi (TRPMS Senior Editor)

Nicolas Karakatsanis (NMISC Secretary)

Suleman Surti (JOS Chair)

Michael Lerch (JOS Vice Chair)

Kisung Lee (JOS Representative)

Dimitris Visvikis (JOS Representative)

John Valentine (RISC Chair)

**1. Introduction.** Delivered by Andrew Goertzen



## 2. NMISC Chair's report. Delivered by Andrew Goertzen

- Review of Structure of NMISC and Related Committees within IEEE NPSS
- NPSS Society
  - One of 39 societies within IEEE (~2500-3000 NPSS members)
  - Administered by NPSS AdCom – Current NPSS President is Vesna Sossi
  - NPSS functions somewhat like a confederation of its 8 Technical Committees
    - Many IEEE Societies do not have multiple technical committees, reflecting the more homogenous nature of their society interests
  - NMISC and RISC are largest two TCs within NPSS
    - NSS/MIC/RTSD is the largest annual conference organized under NPSS
- NMISC and RISC relative roles
  - NMISC and RISC work closely together
  - Shared responsibility for NSS/MIC/RTSD meeting
  - Overlap in membership communities and interests
  - NMISC Website Content
    - List of officers and elected members, Committee awards, Meeting minutes, Constitution and bylaws
- Review NMISC officers, technical committees and executive members.
- Reviewed current roster of NMISC voting members.
  - Thank for their service the 5 members ending their term in 2022.
  - Welcome the 5 new members elected in 2022 to serve for the 2023-2025 term
- Upcoming NPSS 2023 Elections
  - Selected by all NPSS voting members:
  - NMISC members – 5 elected each year
  - Deadline for nominations was June 1, 2023
  - Selected by NMISC
  - New NMISC representative at JOS to be elected
    - Kisung Lee completes two 2 year terms this year
  - New NMISC Vice-Chair to be elected–
    - will be Vice-Chair for 2024-25, Chair for 2026-27 and Past Chair for 2028-29.
  - Open call for both the JOS representative and the Vice-Chair positions:
    - please inform directly the NMISC Chair or Secretary



- NPSS Initiatives
  - Can be 1, 2 or 3 years, starting on January 1. Typical budgets are \$15k-\$150k.
  - Funding requests normally best submitted in January for funding in following year.
  - Three Funding Sources for Initiatives:
    - 50% of previous year operations surplus – for 2023 the surplus is estimated to be \$953k, so 50% is ~\$475k (surplus not known for 2024)
    - Note: Other \$475k goes into reserves. We can spend a maximum of 1.5%/year of our reserves, implying ~60 years to fully spend down reserves assuming no income.
    - NPSS reserves: At present, 1.5% of NPSS reserves is ~\$200k (~\$12M in reserves for NPSS, total IEEE reserves ~\$820M)
    - Operational budget: In theory we can fund close to \$700k in initiatives.
  - In May AdCom meeting two initiatives were submitted:
    - Radiation Community Exchange – 3 years at \$0k, \$10k, \$10k, with \$5k each from NSREC and RADECS
    - PAST Early Career Researcher Travel Grants - \$75k
  - NMISC established an Initiative Subcommittee last year to support development of applications to this fund (Chaired by Robert Miyaoka)
- Considerations to encourage participation in NMISC.
  - encourage Student/Post-doc attendance at NMISC Meeting
    - brought forward by NPSS President Vesna Sossi following discussion at TAB about increasing young people participation.
  - Increased involvement in NMISC of non-elected members
    - Brought forward by Former Elected NMISC Member Antonio Gonzalez asking about how he can stay involved after rotating off NMISC.
  - How to implement?
    - Subcommittee for increasing member engagement?
- Upcoming Activities
  - Review of Constitution and By-laws
    - Last revised in 2013. Was scheduled for 2020.
    - Subcommittee will be chaired by Andrew Goertzen (Delayed to other obligations)
    - RISC involvement required due to sections involving JOS and JES
    - NMISC members encouraged to reach out the Chair if interested in participating in this subcommittee.
  - November 2023 AGM
    - Poll of committee members to ask plans for attending.

### 3. AdCom Activities Report (by R. Miyaoka and Jae Sung Lee)



### NPSS AdCom Retreat Breakout Sessions

- Membership
  - How to increase/sustain membership
  - List tangible benefits of membership
  - What can we do at conferences to help grow membership,
  - How do we get students and young professionals to become engaged members?
  - Attendees, members, volunteers, leaders
    - how to encourage individuals to transition to next level of engagement?
  - Separate presentation of IEEE's commitment to Diversity and Inclusion.
    - How to reach under-represented groups?
- Initiatives
  - More in next presentation
- Technical Committee Collaborations
  - Joint initiatives
  - NMISC and RISC are good examples of positive collaborations.
- Successes/Best practices guidelines
  - Develop a best practices document for each conference/technical counsel,
  - Reserve a position or two on an ExCom for graduate students/young professionals,
    - if necessary, provide financial support.
  - Need for continuity. What worked well, what did not work well. NPSS, NMISC, MIC, etc.

### Restructuring of the NPSS Communications Committee

- Updates in Member roster
- Revamping NPSS Newsletter
- NPSS social media – Facebook is primary means of communication
  - <https://iee-npss.org/>
  - <https://www.facebook.com/ieeenpss>

### Advancing Diversity and Inclusion within NPSS

- IEEE Technical Advisory Board (TAB) Committee on Diversity & Inclusion (CDI) Charter
  - Responsibilities: ensuring that TAB policies, procedures, and practices are conducive to creating and maintaining a diverse and inclusive environment that is valuable for all members.
  - Mission: Support TAB's advocacy efforts in making progress towards a diverse, equitable, and inclusive technical community.
- DEI definitions:
  - Diversity: Embracing differences



- Equity: Treating people of all identities and backgrounds fairly and respectfully regarding opportunities, access, outcomes, and resources
- Inclusion: Intentionally creating welcoming and respectful environments where everyone is given an opportunity to flourish
- Diversity of thought. How do we measure it? How do we arrive at it?  
How do we foster diversity of thinking within IEEE? What are the cultural and processes that we put in place? Engineers are happy to disagree with each other but how do we codify it?
- We have data on a set of diversity of measures.
  - Can we define metrics that represent the diversity of thought?
  - If we don't, why aren't we collecting it?
  - We can define an interesting package around it
    - read the McKinzie paper: ethnic diversity provides a better outcome - improved productivity.
    - How much disagreement do we tolerate?
    - How quickly do we arrive at a solution?
    - We can start an investigation that tackles the diversity of thought.
    - We have equity of opportunity.  
Internal cultural biases - how do we identify and remove?
- Objectives
  - Adopt strategies proposed by the IEEE TAB Committee on Diversity and Inclusion to increase engagement of Underrepresented Groups (URGs)
  - Continually identify processes within the IEEE NPSS that are barriers to representation and inclusion and suggest improvements.
  - Monitor and evaluate diversity and inclusion within the IEEE NPSS
  - Work with the IEEE TAB Committee on Diversity and Inclusion to develop a common message and programs on diversity and inclusion.

### **3. IEEE NPSS School on Advanced Topics in PET/CT and PET/MR (delivered by R. Fulton)**

- Thailand, Friday 27 Jan 2023 – Wed 1 Feb 2023
- Organized by NPSS EduCom in conjunction with the Thai Medical Physicist Society (TMPS).
  - Days 1-3: Coinciding with 2023 Annual Scientific Meeting of TMPS in Nan, Thailand (27 Jan – 29 Jan).
  - Days 4-6: Dept of Nuclear Medicine, King Chulalongkorn Memorial Hospital Bangkok (30 Jan – 1 Feb).
- The first NPSS EduCom School to be organized by the Nuclear Medical and Imaging Sciences Technical Committee (NMISTC)
- Participants:
  - 25 (15 female, 10 males; 22 from Thailand, 1 from Indonesia, 2 from Myanmar)
  - Applied online via Indico, filled questionnaire.
  - Mix of medical physics Master's students and working medical physicists



- Five on-site and four remote lecturers
- School Program
  - Refresher lectures on the physics of PET, CT, MRI, and hybrid imaging
  - Additional TMPS lectures on a broad list of topics related to NPSS fields, Image Reconstruction, Data Corrections, Kinetic Modeling, Proton Therapy, Instrumentation and AI in Medical Imaging
  - Hands-on Workshops
  - WIE Event
  - Student Presentations
- School Budget Wrap-Up presented.
  - Total cost to EduCom budget: \$11,375
- Summary: Overall a very successful educational event
  - A very successful school
  - Everything worked! Facilities in Nan and Bangkok were excellent.
  - An enjoyable experience for lecturers and students
  - Students have tools to independently extend their knowledge and skills.
  - WIE talks were inspirational.
  - Presence at TMPS meeting raised awareness of IEEE, NPSS and its activities.
  - Delivered within budget thanks to:
    - TMPS/KCMH for funding venues, infrastructure, social events
    - The UK Science and Technology Facilities Council (STFC) for providing remote cluster access.

#### 4. NMISC Awards-Fellow Sub-Committee (delivered by A. Goertzen on behalf of R. Fulton)

- Announcement and reminder of the available 2023 NMISC awards
  - Edward J Hoffman Medical Imaging Scientist Award
  - Medical Imaging Technical Achievement Award
  - Bruce H Hasegawa Young Investigator's Award
- Nomination deadline for 2023 NMISC awards is July 15, 2023
- 2023 NPSS-levels Award nominations deadline was on Jan 31<sup>st</sup>, 2023.
- IEEE Fellows
  - Nomination Deadline was March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023
  - Two Fellows elevated from NMISC/MIC community:
    - Vesna Sossi: For contributions to quantitative and translational brain PET imaging
    - Margaret E. Daube-Witherspoon: For contributions to 3D image reconstruction in PET and correction for physics effects
  - Congratulations to our first female Fellows from the NMISC/MIC community.

#### 5. NMISC Secretary's Report, (delivered by Nicolas A Karakatsanis)



- Current Secretary: Nicolas Karakatsanis
  - agrees to continue serving this role for a 2<sup>nd</sup> consecutive term (2023-2024) after the recommendation of NMISC Chair and Vice-Chair
- Non-Routine Motions Voted on since 2022 mid-year T-con (May 2022)
  - New NMISC representative in JOS elected on December 2022: Dimitris Visvikis (2-Year term: 1/1/2023 – 12/31/2024)
- Welcome note to the new elected NMISC members starting in 2023 (term of 2023-2025)
- Welcome note to the new NMISC Representative at AdCom: Jae Sung Lee (term of 2023-2026)
- Upcoming 2023 NPSS Elections
  - At least 8 applications needed, from which 5 new members will be elected to serve a 3-year term (1/1/2024-12/31/2026) covering Europe, Asia, Oceania, America...
  - 13 confirmed candidates (all nominations have been submitted).
    - Geographical location: 6 from North America, 4 from Europe & 3 from Asia
    - Gender: 7 female, 6 male
    - Career-stage: 4 senior, 9 (relatively) junior
    - Research Environment: 11 from academia, 2 from industry,
  - Deadline for submission of complete 1-page nominations
    - Tuesday May 30<sup>th</sup> 5pm EDT (US East Coast Daylight Time Zone)
- Open Call for NMISC Vice-Chair candidates
  - to serve as Vice Chairs for 2024-2025 then as Chair for 2026-2027
  - nominations deadline: October 2023 (2 weeks before 2023 NMISC AGNM)
- Open Call for NMISC representative to JOS for the 2024-2025 term
  - Kisung Lee completes his 2<sup>nd</sup> consecutive term at the end of 2023
  - nominations deadline: after 2023 AGM, start of December 2023 (to be elected by the end of 2023)

## 6. Joint Oversight Sub-committee (JOS) Activities Report (delivered by S. Surti)

- Current (2023) JOS membership and IEEE NSS/MIC/(RTSD) conference meeting schedule presented
  - 2022 – Milan
  - 2023 – Vancouver
  - 2024 – Boston (makeup for 2020)
  - 2025 – Yokohama (makeup for 2021)
  - 2026 – Europe (back to normal cycle)
  - 2027 – likely North America
  - 2028 – likely Rest of the World (outside Europe and North America)
- Schedule for 2026 meeting
  - April 2022: Call for sites in Europe
  - Aug/Sep 2022: Proposal submission deadline
  - Oct 2022: Preliminary discussion





- Nov 08, 2022: Site presentations, JOS discussion, Selection of 3-5 sites for site-visit
- Mar 2023: Site visits and reports completed.
- May 2023: General Chair selection (Stefan Ritt)
- May/June 2023: Discussion and ranking
- TBA: Selected site notification
- Shortlisted Candidate Cities: Copenhagen, Grenada, Geneva, Rotterdam
- Plans for 2027 site selection (North America site)
  - Dec 01, 2022: Call for sites in North America (completed)
  - Mar 31, 2023: Proposal submission deadline (completed)
    - No proposals were received,
    - Plan is to have IEEE MCE involve in site selection process,
    - Discussions underway
  - 2023 (actions to be taken):
    - Receive proposals from sites vetted by MCE,
    - JOS preliminary evaluation followed by site visit,
    - GC selection (NMISC),
    - Final discussion, rankings and recommendation to JES

## 7. IEEE NSS/MIC/RTSD Conference Record report (delivered by Youngho Seo)

After full discussions during the 2022 conferences with both NMISC and RISC members, following actions were decided:

- Form a joint subcommittee (Youngho Seo, Ikuo Kanno, Srillan Krishnamoorthy, Farah Fahim, Andrew Goertzen, Lorenzo Fabris, Dimitra Darambara, Vesna Sossi) which held a Zoom meeting on December 7, 2022.
- Agreed to:
  - Discontinue “post-conference” Conference Record
  - Pursue publications of short paper/abstracts only before the conference
  - Copyrights will be obtained at the time of abstract submission
- Implementation
  - 2023 is the test bed – will continue if there is no major issue found this year
  - Had a series of discussions with MCE/Xplore to learn we can do this (publishing before conference)
  - EventClass implemented collecting copyrights, etc.
- There were a few questions during the submission process.
  - Most likely unrelated, there was about 10% reduction in numbers of completed abstract submissions this year from last year’s number.
- For sustainable implementation,



- Conference record Chair (Y. Seo) requested that he serves as chair or co-chair of conference publications for the next few years.

#### **8. NMISC Initiatives Sub-Committee report** (delivered by Robert S Miyaoka)

- The definition of an IEEE Initiative was described by the sub-committee chair
  - Initiative: Program, product or service to seed new strategic directions or pilot operational ideas which meet one or more criteria:
    - Not previously operationalized
    - Potential new products or services
    - Seed new forms of technical engagement including topics and audiences, especially areas aligned with NPSS/Technical Activities/IEEE strategic plans and themes
    - Outreach to new communities, including PK12+ and others (e.g., URG) to develop awareness
    - Provide other benefits to members, field of interest, or general public
    - Most in the \$20-25K/year for up to 3-years, but some can be substantially more
- Initiative Example #1: From Membership to Leadership
  - Goals of this initiative:
    - introduce young members of our society to service opportunities via the NPSS Membership Table that is present at all conferences.
    - Provide up to \$1500 of travel support for a student, post-doc or young professional member of our society to attend an NPSS conference.
    - To receive this support the individual will be required to help staff the NPSS Membership Table at the conference at least 2-hours a day.
    - There will also be a senior society member at the booth to orient the awardee on operating the booth and to provide general mentorship with regards to volunteer service to the society.
    - The hope is that individuals that receive these awards will become future volunteer leaders of our society.
- Initiative Example #2: NSS MIC Short Courses Library
  - Goals of this initiative
    - provide incentive and compensation to NSS or MIC Short Course instructors to make recordings of their short courses which could then be made available through the NPSS website.
    - Reimbursement for NSS and MIC short course instructors is less than in the past.
    - They are now being asked to provide recordings of their short course presentations.
    - Idea of incentivizing members to make educational content for the web was a previous initiative but due to COVID19 never gained much traction.
    - RISC Initiatives Chair is interested in doing combined initiative proposal.
    - Need to discussions to make official NPSS Initiatives Proposal.
- Initiative Example #3: open Kinetic Modeling Initiative (openKMI) – Updates after 1<sup>st</sup> year of activity
  - A 2-year proposal submitted to NPSS by NMISC in Nov 2021
  - Notice of award in April 2022; Officially started in August 2022



- Year 1 (08/2022-06/2023):
  - Website and YouTube Channel created,
  - 4 quarterly webinars delivered; 5<sup>th</sup> scheduled,
  - One short course given at MIC 2022; 2<sup>nd</sup> one scheduled for MIC 2023
  - First OpenKMI Workshop scheduled for MIC 2023
  - Open-source code to be released before Oct 2023
- Four OpenKMI Webinars organized so far:
  - Attendance: 90-120 attendees in each webinar.
  - All lectures were recorded and are available on YouTube.

#### 9. 2022 NSS/MIC/RTSD Conference Report (delivered by A. Goertzen on behalf of Chiara Guazzoni)

- Great support from organization committee (35% women, 50% as Program Chairs)
- Stats:
  - 1257 Submitted Abstracts, >40 countries.
  - >1710 attendees (25% virtual, the rest onsite)
  - 7 Short Courses, 302 Short Course Attendees (196 onsite and 106 virtual)
  - 553 Workshops and Special Events (WIE...)
  - 58 exhibitors' booths sold.
  - Dinners and Luncheon sold out!
  - 188 offered Trainee Grants and 175 used.
- Hybrid conference and Q&A system supported.
- Finances finalized to close the conference. The meeting did run a surplus.
  - Final financial statements have been submitted to IEEE.
  - Meeting returned a profit of ~23% on total revenues of ~\$1.25M
  - Very successful given the significant uncertainty coming out of COVID pandemic – decision to go in person only made in March/April 2022.
  - Costs were kept under very tight control due to financial risks associated with changes in travel or meeting restrictions.

#### 10. 2023 NSS/MIC/RTSD Conference Report (delivered by V. Sossi)

- Main scientific program: Abstract submission and review done
  - 568 abstracts - comparable to last year (2022: 582) - in 11 topics.
  - 5 oral MIC presentations in 2 joint sessions: MIC/NSS, and MIC/NSS/RTSD. *Tues*
  - 106 in 18 oral sessions, 445 in 3 poster sessions, 17 rejections: final decision this week.
- Other conference programs: completed planning.
  - 4 short courses with *lead instructors*, Coordinator: Youngho Seo
    - Medical Image Reconstruction: from Foundations to AI, *Andrew Reader, Mon*
    - PET kinetic modeling and parametric imaging, *Guobao Wang, Tues*



- GATE, a Monte Carlo simulation platform for imaging and therapy, *Lydia Maigne, Tues*
- Artificial intelligence in nuclear medicine image analysis and processing, *Arman Rahmim, Tues*
- 3 workshops with *lead organizers*
  - Open Kinetic Modeling Initiative, *Guobao Wang, Tues 2 – 5 pm*
  - Young Investigators' Workshop, *Reimund Bayerlein, Sat 12 – 6 pm*
  - Ultra-low-dose PET imaging, *Kuangyu Shi, Sat 2 – 6 pm*
- 1 joint future directions session, *Vesna Sossi, Tues 4 – 6 pm.*
  - Encompasses 3 panelists each provides visions in a specialty (NSS, MIC, RTSD).
  - Simon Cherry is the MIC panelist.
- 2 plenary speakers
  - François Bénard, U. British Columbia, on nuclear imaging technology in clinical applications
  - Anca Constantin, James Madison University, on how astronomers extract data from the various instruments, image reconstruction, and data/image analysis.
- 1 MIC banquet dinner at the Vancouver Aquarium
- MIC Submissions per topic were reviewed.
- Schedule progress was reviewed.
- To-do list:
  - Add session moderators
  - Poster session layout
  - Plenary session titles
  - Hybrid details

## **11. 2024 IEEE NSS/MIC/RTSD conference report (delivered by Kira Grogg)**

- Committee Chairs finalized
- Tampa Convention Center selected:
  - Entire center available
  - Ballrooms with > 2000 seats
  - > 100,000 sq ft exhibit halls
  - Exhibition
  - Posters
  - 36 breakout rooms
  - Indoor/outdoor spaces
- MIC Rooms
  - Everything is conveniently located
  - Poster space on 2<sup>nd</sup> floor available continuously through Friday
  - Two large ballrooms on first floor available for Plenaries and Orals
  - Two smaller rooms across the hall for Friday and Saturday morning
  - Rooms with windows for Short Courses



- Tentative MIC program topics and Short Courses were presented.
- Tentative plans for MIC Dinner: Boat Ride
  - Dinner and ride along the river
- Conference Logistics
  - Airport: 15-20 minute by car
  - Conference hotel: Embassy Suites
  - Limited room block will be reserved.
  - Many nearby hotels within walking distance
  - Food on-site and nearby

## 12. 2025 IEEE NSS/MIC/RTSD conference report (delivered by Taiga Yamaya)

- Planned schedule: 1<sup>st</sup> (Sat.) -8<sup>th</sup> (Sat.) Nov. 2025
- Venue: Pacifico Yokohama North (originally planned for 2021) contracted
- Organizing committee is partially finalized
  - **Ikuo Kanno** has decided to step down due to his personal reason.
  - **Hiroyuki Takahashi** has been recommended as an alternative GC from the Japanese side.
    - 2021 NSS-MIC was attracted by a Japanese industrial-academia collaborative committee, which was chaired by Ikuo Kanno
    - Ikuo Kanno stepped down in 2021, and Hiroyuki Takahashi is now chairing the Japanese committee.
    - Hiroyuki Takahashi's expertise is in NSS, but his research is covering medical imaging areas as well

## 13. Emission Tomography Standardization Initiative (ETSI) (delivered by N. Karakatsanis)

- Originated from discussions on Sitek, A. *et al.* "Artificial Intelligence in PET: An Industry Perspective. PET Clinics 16, 483–492 (2021)"
- Pushed forward by Arman Rahmim, later led by Glenn Wells who is the current President of Physics, Instrumentation & Data Sciences Council (PIDSC) of SNMMI
- Large international group of interested people.
  - ~50 total (Academics + industry)
  - Clinical and preclinical
  - First meeting Feb 202
  - Informal and not currently associated to any society.
- Vision: To create an open standardized data format for raw emission-tomography acquisition data allowing:
  - data storage/archiving, pre-reconstruction processing and evaluation and reconstruction of clinically acceptable and quantitative images.
- Short-term goals:



- to define a standardized (vendor-independent) data format and content for PET list-mode and associated data;
- to define the standard used for storage and transmission of that data; and
- to develop software to access and manipulate the standardized data.
- PETSIRD format: Positron Emission Tomography Standardization Initiative's Raw Data format
- Long-term goal:
  - to expand the standard's scope to include other emission modalities (SPECT and planar).
  - SPECTSIRD format: Single Photon Emission Computed Tomography Standardization Initiative's Raw Data format
- Sub-Groups of the Initiative
  - Data Elements (core structure): led by K. Thielemans and A. Kesner
  - Data Wrapper/Container: Led by M. Hansen
  - Use cases: led by N. Karakatsanis
  - Website Development ([ETSInitiative.org](https://ETSInitiative.org)) led by Nicolas Karakatsanis
    - Online freely accessible platform hosting public announcements, events description and ETSInitiative documentation.
  - Data archiving and network transfer/transmission (to be constructed)
- First ETSI abstract accepted as oral presentation in 2023 SNMMI Annual Meeting (June 2023, Chicago)
- Additional ETSI abstracts submitted at 2023 EANM Congress and IEEE NSS/MIC/RTSD conference
- Plan to organize ETSI's first hack-a-thon event right after MIC2023 in Vancouver (UBC Campus, location TBD)
  - Plans under construction.
  - Organizers: Kris Thielemans, Nicolas Karakatsanis
  - Aims:
    - Educate & raise awareness in community about the mission and vision of the initiative.
    - Attract interest for potential code contributors to the raw data format's API and use-case tools implementation.
- Proposal for Endorsement of ETSInitiative's purpose by NMISC
  - Would NMISC consider endorsing the purpose of the ETSInitiative as described in its mission and vision statements (voting?)
  - Endorsing does not imply commitment for financial support though the possibility for such support is not excluded.
  - Endorsing would require issuing a brief endorsement statement by NMISC.

## 14. Other Subjects

### 14. 1 Discussion – Proposal for “Shorter” Overall IEEE NPSS Conference(s) (delivered by Y. Seo)

- Issues:
  - The overall conference is “too long” because NSS, MIC, and RTSD have different start days.



- If we would like to have “more/seamless” interactions, we should have all people all together at the same time.
- The motivation of “sandwiched/zigzag” schedule was to allow people to attend other (from MIC to NSS, from NSS to MIC, to RTSD) sessions.
- Suggestions for Discussion
  - Run all sessions/conferences in parallel with punctual session organizations.
- Potential Benefits of “Shorter” Conference(s)
  - Better interactions between NSS, MIC, and RTSD communities – because physically people are all together synchronously.
  - For those who are interested in all conferences, the travel cost will be less (# of nights).
  - Cost saving for conference organization – e.g., less rental cost for venue
  - The shorter format does not require larger venues either.