MINUTES OF THE 2025 IEEE NUCLEAR AND PLASMA SCIENCES SOCIETY (NPSS) NUCLEAR MEDICAL AND IMAGING SCIENCES COUNCIL (NMISC) ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

DATE: FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7TH, 2025, 12PM – 2PM (YOKOHAMA LOCAL TIME, GMT+9)

LOCATION: **ROOM G215, PACIFICO YOKOHAMA, YOKOHAMA, JAPAN.**

Zoom: https://ucsf.zoom.us/j/91915401365?pwd=VQ9wMqUzcth3KNAbp2bC4i9Pabiyk5.1

Voting Members

Executive officers:

Youngho Seo (NMISC Chair)

Mitra Safavi-Naeini (NMISC Vice Chair)

Andrew Goertzen (NMISC Past Chair, NMISC Awards-Fellows Sub-Committee Chair)

NMISC Term ending 2025:

Alexandre Bousse

Yong Du

Georgios Konstantinou

Sun Il Kwon

Irene Polycarpou

NMISC Term ending 2026:

Gerard Ariño Estrada

Christoph Lerche

Greta S. P. Mok

Magdalena Rafecas

Kuangyu Shi



NMISC Term ending 2027:

Junwei Du

Antonio J. Gonzalez

Andrea González-Montoro

Akram Hamato

Nicolas A. Karakatsanis

Non-Voting Members:

Esther Ciarrocchi (NMISC Secretary)

Vesna Sossi (NPSS President)

Suleman Surti (AdCom representative)

Jae Sung Lee (AdCom representative)

Michael Lerch (JOS Chair)

Steve Meikle (JOS Vice Chair)

Dimitra Darambara (JOS Representative)

Dimitris Visvikis (JOS Representative)

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

Dimitris Visvikis (TRPMS Editor in Chief)

Jinyi Qi & Kris Thielemans (AdCom Representative to TMI Journal)

Christer Fröjdh (RISC Chair)

1. **Introduction** (Y. Seo)
    - Welcome all in-person and remote participants
    - Round of introductions
    - Presentation of the meeting's agenda

2. **NMISC Chair's report** (Y. Seo)
    - Approval of the minutes of the 2025 mid-year TCon and of the 2025 AGM agenda
    - Reminder that we approved the revision of the NMISC Constitution and Bylaws (C&BL), and will need AdCom approval
    - Review of the structure of NMISC and Related Committees within IEEE NPSS
    - Overview of the NMISC current activities and subcommittees
    - NMISC Awards
    - NPSS School on advanced topics in medical imaging
    - Reminder of the goal of NMISC
    - Decision to provide an orientation for new members at the beginning of each year

3. **NMISC Secretary Report** (E. Ciarrocchi)

    - Non-routine motion voted on since the 2025 mid-year T-con: NPSS technical co-sponsorship for the 2026 FTMI/TBPET/PSMR meeting
    - NMISC JOS representative (December 2025): D Darambara term ending, 2nd term accepted, appointment by NMISC Chair if C&BL revision approved by AdCom
    - Reminder of NPSS elections, including new NMISC members

4. **Vice- chair elections** (Y. Seo)
    - Candidates: Gerard Arino-Estrada (GAE), Andrea Gonzalez-Montoro (AGM), Nikolas Karakatzanis (NK)
    - Voting conducted during the AGM by the NMISC Chair, email votes collected by the Secretary before the meeting, and emailed to the Chair
    - Votes: Total: 16, GAE: 5, AGM: 3, NK: 8
    - New NMISC Vice-Chair (2026-2028 term): Nikolas Karakatzanis

5. **JOS Report** (S. Meikle)
    - Explanation of what JOS is: the joint oversight committee of RISC and NMISC, with two goals (i) evaluate potential sites for future conferences, (ii) receive nominations and make recommendations to JES for the general chair for several years ahead
    - For 2028, it was supposed to be in the Rest of the World, and we wanted to consider the Southern hemisphere, but no site was fully compliant, so it was moved to Europe by JES, and Athens was selected among 3 sites. The GC will be Cinzia DaVia, (RISC community), the GC is alternating between RISC and NMISC

- 2029 conference will be in North America (Canada + US+ Mexico), JOS is 6-month behind schedule, top-5 sites have been ranked
- JOS collects suggestions from RISC and NMISC
- NK asks how we can contribute to JOS: SM suggests to contact them with ideas and doubts
- GAE asks how the 2028 site was selected. SM: concerns with other sites, security issues, costs, site away from city center, …

6. **2024 IEEE NSS/MIC/RTSD Progress Report - Tampa, FL, USA** (G. El Fahkri)
   - It was a successful conference, well within costs
   - Tried to keep the posters as long as possible
   - Issue with hotel, major hurricane the week before, but not many complaints
   - They had a junior co-chair: it is a good thing, they get trained
   - Overview of the 2024 Committee
   - Overview of the conference sponsors and exhibitors, helped to cover some extra costs
   - NIH grant (10k) to cover registration of students, it works for R13 conference, if American students attend then we can ask for NIH support
   - Submissions, close to 900: NSS (419), MIC (499), RTSD (109), WS (18), TS (9)
   - Submissions by country, well represented: US (397), China (132), Japan (91), All others <70
   - Sessions in continuity with previous years: 12 MIC topics, distribution by topic presented (502 submissions), no AI-specific sessions
   - Recap of social events and conference schedule: the cruise dinner and the improvised Dj party were much appreciated
   - Recap of MIC program topics, conveners, and sessions
   - Recap of workshops and events
   - Two plenaries: one from biologist (S. Karam), the second from an award winner (R. Carson)

7. **2025 IEEE NSS/MIC/RTSD Meeting – Yokohama, Japan** (H. Takahashi)
   - First time that the conference is in Japan
   - Organizing committee shown
   - Papers: MIC (699), NSS (596), RTSD (121)
   - 61 exhibitors, approximately 800 registered participants, 80% male, 17% female
   - Presentation time reduced from 18 to 15 minutes (12+3)
   - Greeting of the president of the Science Council of Japan
   - Four NSS plenary speakers, three MIC plenary speakers
   - Seven short courses, six workshops
   - Technical tour on Nov 10

8. **2026 IEEE NSS/MIC/RTSD Meeting – Granada, Spain** (V. Sossi)
   - Granada, Spain, 7 - 14 Nov. 2026
   - Overview of Organizing committee
   - Logo and poster ready, site visit on June 6-7 2025
   - Conference schedule
     - 9:00-19:00 (13:10-15:00 lunch break); hybrid format
     - Up to 20 oral sessions; 3 poster sessions, finish Saturday 13:00
     - 15 minutes oral slots (12 min presentation+3min questions)
     - Topics – RF and VS to provide list before to NMISC before Nov mtg to get NMISC input at mtg
     - Plenary talks – one or two, no more than 40 minutes (suggestions welcome)
     - Single joint session RTSD/NSS/MIC (Tuesday)
     - Up to 2 workshops on Saturday afternoon
     - Student reviewers (total 8-10, NMISC community to suggest capable students, RF and VS to provide student application form to NMISC community)
     - Student session moderators
     - 2 – 4 Short courses – TBD (suggestions welcome)
     - Refresher courses – TBD (suggestions welcome), they are thinking of not having the,
   - MIC dinner on Friday night at Carmen de los Chapiteles, walking distance from Granada Center
   - New features
     - 6 mini-oral sessions (20 selected poster presenters, ~ 1min duration)–(timeslot 11:45 -12:10, Wed, Thu, Fri, matching the content of the afternoon poster sessions)
     - Happy hour Saturday after last session (budget permitting)
     - WIE - change of time slot/format: cocktails on Wed 18:00-19:30 just before conference reception
     - YP session at lunchtime?
   - Topics 2025 (699 abstracts) vs 2026: M3 of 2025 could be changed to “Multi-modality imaging systems including applications” to stress applications of these modalities, M9 Kinetic modeling -> add explicitly molecular connectivity analysis and radiomics, M10: add theranostics, New topic: novel applications of AI
   - Suggestions from NMISC: continuity in topics among conferences, sometimes there is a slight overlap of topics, NSS and MIC should also ensure no overlaps
   - Plenary: Irene Buvat (Marie Curie-Sklodowska Award recipient, talk on oncology), first ideas for second talk, maybe a third talk in a different area
   - Short and refresher courses have usually low attendance, so we may consider dropping them
   - Workshops: good attendance in 2025, especially the last one on Saturday (is it because of no conflicts or because it is actually interesting? Waiting for feedback). Content not decided yet

9. **2027 IEEE NSS/MIC/RTSD Meeting – Pasadena, CA, USA** (D. Visvikis)
   - Oct, 30th - Nov, 6th
   - Pictures and map of the conference center and area shown
   - Hotels are very close

- Contracts signed, finalizing the committee membership, visiting Pasadena in 2026, preparing some changes to the program (oral posters, debate sessions)
- Airport connection: Uber in 30' from LAX

10. NPSS AdCom March 2025 meeting (J. Sun Lee)

- Second meeting in June, virtual
    - NPSS President Sara Pozzi outlined priorities: expand NPSS reach and impact, enhance conferencs, journals and educational activities, strengthen collaboration with IEEE, TAB and other IEEE societies, increase student and YP engagement, support NPSS reputation and long-term stability
    - Tresurer Ralf Engels report: in 2024, only 65% of allocated funds were spent, they were transferred to NPSS reserves, future use of reserve funds is significantly restricted by IEEE regulations. Recommendation is to spend all the money as early as possible
    - Task forces: affinity groups, projects and initiatives, SMRs nuclear reactor
    - Awards: some have small nr of nominations, so remember to nominate
    - Actions approved: PPST C&BL change, PSAC technical co-sponsorship of ARCOPTS 2026, 200k NPSS surplus transferred to NPSS Foundation Fund

11. Conference statistics (A. Corbeil Therrien)

- Ralf's statistics
- Conference attendance 2004-2024, slight decrease
- Submissions per year, total/NSS/MIC/RTSD, slight downward trend
- Primary Interest of attendees: NSS, MIC, NSS/MIC, stable over years
- Please let me know which statistics you are interested in
- NK: Suggests an annual, accessible, offline PDF report, ACT: asks what we want in that report and what date, YS: this is important for the future, also conference location, these data are available for very small group of people, while RISC and NMISC should have access to improve the conference

12. IEEE/NPSS Journals/publications (D. Visvikis)

- TRPMS progress report
- Up on nr of published pages, nr of papers peaking up
- TRPMS quite high up in JCI rank
- On timing: 10% worse in nr of days between submissions and first decision, because of increased nr of paper submitted
- Best paper award: look at 3 previous yrs, and it was given to segmentation work done by Nandi
- There are other highly cited papers on HW and SW
- 30% acceptance rate: this needs to go lower, to 20%

- Next year, we will try to restructure the editorial board, more senior at high levels and increase the nr of associate editors to get rid of papers before review, to minimize delays
- At TRPMS we publish very few nr papers
- Comments
    - We went from 16 to 8 issues, now we can go to 12 issues
    - Downward trend also in conference submission, is there a correlation? No, we do not get paper only from the conference, there is not a correlation between conference and paper
    - Discussion on using AI tools for review and compare with actual reviews. This could be an additional tool for the associate editor, not to be shared with the reviewer

13. All other business (Y. Seo)

- N. Karakatzanis reminds of a new NPSS 2-yr internship initiative for topics and projects