



URSI Newsletter – January 2011  
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## Welcome message



The world is quickly changing, and the success of scientific organizations such as URSI is highly dependent on the flexibility to adapt to these changing environments. The economic situation in many countries has put stress on the funds available for scientific and long-term research. Recruiting and involving new scientists, and stimulating young students to make a choice for a scientific career, are becoming ever more important and crucial for the operation of a scientific union such as URSI. The channels through which a union such as URSI reaches out to the wider scientific community should line up with interests and tools used by these young scientists and students.

The new Web site, which has been improved and which is constantly being updated with information, is a major channel. All URSI scientists are welcome to provide information that can be published on the Web site. The *Radio Science Bulletin* has been the cornerstone of the URSI community and has been a major tool in exchanging information amongst our community.



This newsletter is also part of the plan to increase the visibility of URSI, and to stimulate the exchange of information amongst the URSI scientists. We target a bi-monthly newsletter by e-mail that will allow more informal communication with URSI scientists. This is the first issue. Any comment, suggestion, or URSI-related input for this newsletter is most welcome.

With best regards,

Paul Lagasse, URSI Secretary General

### Table of Contents

- 1 Welcome message
- 2 Message to the URSI Community and URSI Member Committees
  - Member and Associate Member Committee session at 2011 GASS in Istanbul
  - PHD student paper competition
  - Reactivation of contacts between URSI and ITU
- 3 URSI General Assembly and Scientific Symposium (GASS)
- 4 News from Scientific Commissions
  - Commission-F Triennial Symposium
- 5 Report from AP-RASC'10



XXXth URSI GASS  
Istanbul, Turkey,  
August 13-20, 2011.

Paper Submission:  
February 11, 2011

Notification of Acceptance:  
March 11, 2011

Early Registration:  
March 30, 2011



*All of us at the  
URSI Secretariat wish you  
a most happy, healthy  
and prosperous new year*

Stimulating and co-ordinating, on an international basis, studies, research, applications, scientific exchange, and communication in the fields of radio science

## Message to the URSI Community and Member Committees

### Member and Associate Member Committee session at the 2011 GASS in Istanbul

Many URSI Member Committees are very active on a local basis, and organize conferences, workshops, annual meetings, or student-related activities. Most of this information and the experiences collected by these Member Committees can be an inspiration and useful to other Committees. At the 2011 GASS in Istanbul, for the first time we will organize a special session that will be devoted to presentations of member committees about their local initiatives. We look forward to your proposals for a presentation in this session via [info@ursi.org](mailto:info@ursi.org). This session is intended to be very interactive and stimulating, to allow cross-fertilization of ideas and new initiatives.

### PHD student paper competition

Young Scientists form the future of our research work. URSI has been very active in the past to try to link up with these young scientists, and to stimulate their participation in URSI events. In the past, URSI has supported PhD student paper competitions at General Assemblies or other conferences, more recently such as at AP-RASC 2010. In order to further expand this program, the Board has decided to support PhD student paper competitions organized by Member Committees in the framework of their local conferences or annual meetings, with prize money of 350 Euro. Member Committees that would like to make use of this offer should inform the Secretariat ([info@ursi.org](mailto:info@ursi.org)). Reports on these initiatives and activities published in this Newsletter and in the *Radio Science Bulletin* will increase the interaction between member committees. The Board invites you to send any information or report you think would be suitable for publication to the Secretariat ([info@ursi.org](mailto:info@ursi.org)).

### Reactivation of contacts between URSI and ITU

In order to revitalize the contacts between ITU and URSI, we plan to organize a workshop at the 2011 GASS. At this workshop, URSI scientists who in the framework of their professional activities have experience in dealing with ITU can brainstorm on how best to organize renewed interaction between URSI and ITU. Any URSI scientist who will attend the 2011 GASS and who would be willing to participate in such a workshop should inform the Secretariat ([info@ursi.org](mailto:info@ursi.org)). Information on activities on a local level, which each Member Committee might have between the URSI committee and persons involved in ITU or National Frequency agencies, can also be forwarded to the Secretariat ([info@ursi.org](mailto:info@ursi.org)), and will be used as input for this workshop.

## The XXXth URSI General Assembly and Scientific Symposium

The XXX General Assembly and Scientific Symposium of the International Union of Radio Science (Union Radio Scientifique Internationale-URSI) will be held at Lütfi Kırdar Convention and Exhibition Centre, in the beautiful historical center of Istanbul, Turkey, August 13-20, 2011.



The XXXth General Assembly and Scientific Symposium will have a scientific program consisting of plenary lectures, public lectures, tutorials, posters, invited and contributed papers, organized around the ten Commissions of URSI. In addition, there will be workshops, short courses, special programs for young scientists, a student paper competition, programs for accompanying persons, and industrial exhibits. Over 1,500 scientists from more than fifty countries are expected to participate in the Assembly. The detailed program, link to electronic submission site, and registration form are available at <http://www.ursigass2011.org>

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## Important Deadlines

Paper Submission February 11, 2011  
 Notification of Acceptance March 11, 2011  
 Early Registration March 30, 2011

## Student Paper Competition

A student must be first author of the paper. The student's advisor should attach a statement that his/her contribution is primarily advisory. All other submission requirements can be found at the Web site.



## News from Scientific Commissions

### 12th URSI Commission F Triennial Open Symposium on Radio Wave Propagation and Remote Sensing

8-11 March 2011, Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany, <http://www.tu-chemnitz.de/etit/hf/ursi/>

The next URSI Triennial Open Symposium of Commission F is intended to build closer cooperation between the two related scientific streams, namely, wave propagation and remote sensing. Leading experts from both areas will present review lectures that will augment topical contributions from researchers currently engaged in the developing fronts of the areas of wave propagation and remote sensing. The symposium will also field several short courses in the two areas, as an addendum to the main conference.



## Report from AP-RASC 2010

The "2010 Asia-Pacific Radio Science Conference" (AP-RASC'10) was held at Toyama International Conference Center, Toyama, Japan on September 22-26, 2010.



The AP-RASC'10 in Toyama, Japan, was the third AP-RASC. It was successful, with 597 scientists attending from 31 countries, and 529 papers being presented.

AP-RASC'10 had a very strong program oriented towards Young Scientists, with awards and a Student Paper Competition. The photograph to the left shows all Young Scientist Awards recipients.

Prior to the event, the Young Scientist Program Committee had selected five finalists for the Student Paper Competition. All five finalists presented their paper at a special session at AP-RASC'10. After careful consideration, the Committee decided on the following ranking:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Y. Cui, Tsinghua University, China (CIE)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> H. Wakatsuchi, University of Nottingham, United Kingdom
- 3<sup>rd</sup> I. Laakso, Aalto University, Finland

The above three winners received prizes (certificates and prize money) at the Award Ceremony, held during the AP-RASC'10 Conference Banquet, on September 24, 2010. In addition, the two non-winning finalists, M. Akita, Osaka University, Japan, and S. Ozawa, The University of Tokyo, Japan, also received a certificate. All five finalists are on stage in the photograph.

