



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

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Back on track!

After some time of inactivity, we bring you all the latest news from URSI in this new issue of the Newsletter. Please feel free to react and to provide information! Send you comments to info@ursi.org

XXXIst URSI General Assembly and Scientific Symposium

The XXXIst General Assembly and Scientific Symposium (GASS) of the International Union of Radio Science (Union Radio Scientifique Internationale: URSI) will be held in Beijing, August 17-23, 2014.



The XXXIst GASS will have a scientific program organized around the ten Commissions of URSI, including:

- oral sessions, poster sessions, plenary and public lectures, and tutorials, with both invited and contributed papers
- workshops, short courses
- special programs for young scientists, a student paper competition
- programs for accompanying persons
- and industrial exhibits.

More than 1,500 scientists from more than 50 countries are expected to participate. The detailed program, the link to the electronic submission site for papers, the registration form, the application for the Young Scientists program, and hotel information is available on the GASS Web site: www.chinaursigass.com.

A preliminary version of the scientific sessions and program is already available on the general URSI website: www.ursi.org/en/gass.asp

A limited number of awards are available to assist young scientists from both developed and developing countries to attend the GASS. Make sure to apply for the Young Scientist Award when submitting your paper. Rules are very simple: you have to be younger than 35 at the time of the GASS and you have to be the first author on the paper. The final selection of the awardees is done by the URSI Member Committees and the Young Scientist Panel.

Check the Web site for information on this program as well as on the Student Paper Competition which will run at the GASS.



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Breaking news! URSI AT-RASC 2015

One of the important attractions of the URSI GASS is that by bringing together all ten commissions URSI provides a radio science interdisciplinary forum at which radio scientists can meet and interact with their colleagues from different sub fields of radio science. This allows for a cross fertilisation that can be an important source for new ideas and insights. It is generally recognised that disruptive discoveries and scientific paradigm shifts often occur as a consequence of interdisciplinary interactions. The URSI Board feels that this multi-commission format provides an important service to the URSI scientific community, yet the three year interval of the GASS is too long in an era of rapid advances in science. Consequently, the Board has decided to organize an URSI wide conference on a yearly basis.

In order to take advantage from existing URSI-supported meetings, the Board has decided to incorporate the successful triennial AP-RASC conference in this scheme and to establish a new triennial event in the Atlantic-region. The schedule for these annual URSI Flagship events over the next three years is:

- 2014 = URSI GASS, venue to be decided by Council (worldwide)
- 2015 = URSI AT-RASC, venue to be chosen in the European-American (Atlantic) region.
- 2016 = URSI AP-RASC, venue to be chosen in the Asia-Pacific Region

This scheme will then be repeated on a triennial basis.



1st URSI Atlantic Radio Science Conference (URSI AT-RASC)

18 - 25 May 2015

ExpoMeloneras Convention Centre, Gran Canaria

The newly established triennial URSI Atlantic Radio Science Conference (URSI AT-RASC) is the third URSI flagship conference in addition to the triennial URSI General Assembly and Scientific Symposium and the triennial AP-RASC conference (Asia-Pacific Radio Science Conference).

This first URSI Atlantic Radio Science Conference will have an open scientific program composed of submitted papers within the domains covered by all ten Commissions of URSI. Prof. George Uslenghi will chair the Programme Committee and will be assisted by Prof. Paul Cannon as Vice-Chair and Dr. W. Ross Stone for all matters related to the publications.

As venue, the convention center ExpoMeloneras located in Gran Canaria was chosen. It provides extensive facilities, allowing for many parallel sessions. Plenty of hotels, ranging from 5 to 3 star at very affordable rates, are located close to the conference center, and many low-cost flights from Europe to Gran Canaria are available.



Building this conference into a successful event as an URSI flagship meeting of high scientific quality will depend on the submission of your papers to this event and on your attendance. Bringing together all radio scientists from all over the world and offering a forum to discuss and interact amongst peers is our aim. Formal announcement of the meeting and launch of the Call for Papers will be issued after the deadline for submissions to GASS, using the same submission tool as for the GASS 2014.

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Message to the URSI Community and Member Committees

URSI Committed to Young Scientists - Early Career Commission Representative.

Following a recommendation made by Council at the GASS 2011 in Istanbul, and following the feedback from all of you via the survey run by the URSI Long Range Planning Committee, the Board decided to implement a process by which each Commission will elect a Young Scientist representative at the same time as they elect their new Vice-Chair at the GASS. All those under the age of 36 at the date of the GASS will be eligible for election as an Early Career Commission Representative. Nominations and election will follow the same procedure as the procedure for the election of the Vice-Chairs. Presence at the GASS will be a requirement. Details about the process will be made available to all member Committees and through the URSI Web site in the next few months.

The Early Career Commission Representative will:

- remain in the position for 6 years, but at every GASS a new representative will be elected. In steady-state, there will consequently be two representatives per Commission, ensuring sufficient overlap between the subsequent representatives.
- be responsible for making the Commission activities attractive for the early career scientists.
- become a member of the Early Career Coordinating Committee, which will meet at the GASS, AP-RASC and the URSI AT-RASC Meeting. The committee will report directly to the President and Secretary General.

All Member Committees will be contacted and informed about the initiative and will be asked for nominations.

ITU Recommendations free to the public.

Recently the ITU (International Telecommunication Union) has made all its Recommendations free to the public. The ITU-R Recommendations constitute a set of international technical standards developed by the Radiocommunication Sector (formerly CCIR) of the ITU.

The ITU-R Recommendations are approved by ITU Member States. Their implementation is not mandatory; however, as they are developed by experts from administrations, operators, industry, and other organizations dealing with radiocommunication matters from all over the world, they enjoy a high reputation and are implemented worldwide. They can be found on: <http://www.itu.int/pub/R-REC>.

URSI Conferences and Member Committee Activities

European Conference on Antennas and Propagation (EuCAP)

After the successful European Conference on Antennas and Propagation (EuCAP) editions in France, UK, Germany, Spain, Italy, Czech Republic, and Sweden, it is our great pleasure to announce that the Benelux has been selected by the EuCAP steering committee to host EuCAP 2014 from 6 to 11 April in the Hague, the Netherlands. Check www.eucap2014.org for more information.



14th International Ionospheric Effects Symposium (IES2015), May 12-14, 2015

"Bridging the gap between applications and research involving ionospheric and space weather disciplines"

The next Ionospheric Effects Symposium will be held 12-14 May, 2015 in Alexandria, Virginia, USA. This symposium follows the success of the triennial symposia that were inaugurated in 1975 by Dr. John Goodman. IES2015 will follow in the tradition of the earlier meetings by hosting the event in Alexandria, VA and by offering opportunities for scientists, engineers, and program managers to review current activities and solutions to system impacts caused by ionospheric phenomena and space weather events.

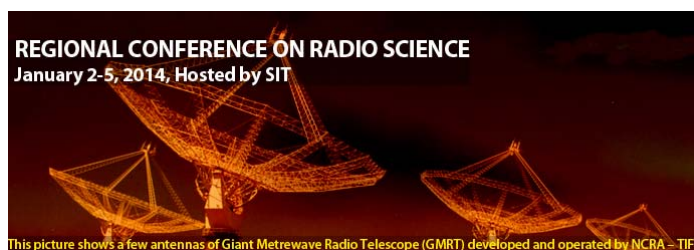
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USA – National Radio Science Meeting, January 8-11 2014, University of Colorado at Boulder.

This open scientific meeting is sponsored by the U.S. National Committee (USNC) of the International Union of Radio Science (URSI). The USNC-URSI is appointed by the National Research Council of The National Academies and represents U.S. radio scientists in URSI. Through technical co-sponsorship of the meeting by the IEEE Antennas and Propagation Society, the authors of abstracts that have been presented at the meeting will have the option of archiving their abstracts by having them be submitted to IEEE Xplore. (At least one author is required to register for each presented abstract.) Papers on any topic in the interest area of a Commission are welcome. Contact the Commission Chairperson or visit the Web site for further information.

India – Regional Conference in Radio Science (RCRS 2014), January 2-5, 2014, Lavalle, Pune, India

We are happy to announce the Regional Conference in Radio Science (RCRS 2014) to be held at the Symbiosis Institute of Technology, Lavalle, Pune during January 2-5, 2014.



Details on the event can be found on the Web site: http://sitpune.edu.in/abstract_submission_form.php.

The Web site gives the broad areas of the themes that will be discussed in the conference. The Web site also provides information regarding the Student Paper Competition and Young Scientist Awards.

Egypt - National Radio Science Conference (NRSC2012), Cairo Egypt, 10 to 12 April 2012

The 29th National Radio Science Conference (NRSC 2012) was held on April 10-12, 2012, at the Faculty of Engineering, Cairo University, Giza, Egypt. The conference was organized by the Academy of Scientific Research and Technology (ASRT) and the National Radio Science Committee (NRSC). The conference technical program included invited presentations by four renowned figures from academia and industry, as well as 82 accepted papers and an additional poster session.



The Netherlands – URSI Benelux Forum 2013, 19 April 2013, Eindhoven, The Netherlands



The 23rd URSI Benelux Forum offered a meeting opportunity to researchers preparing a PhD in the different scientific fields covered by URSI. Researchers with a PhD were also welcome to present significant advances in their postdoctoral research. The meeting offered to them and to the academic and scientific staff of universities and institutes a unique opportunity to be informed about the different research programmes in radio science. Mr. Bedilu Befekadu Adela, post-master student at TU Eindhoven, received the 2013 Benelux Forum Best Poster Award with his poster "An MR-compatible Printed Yagi-Uda Antenna for a Phased Array Hyperthermia Applicator".