

## Minutes of Meeting

---

Time & Date: 7:00pm, Thursday, Jan 21, 2021 (Next meeting is scheduled for Feb 18<sup>th</sup>, 7 pm)

- Zoom Meeting: <https://aiaa.zoom.us/j/91057000591?pwd=aGVmeGhHNStZcWwrd3hYcnp5dk1tUT09>
- or call: 877-853-5257 US Toll-free or 888-475-4499 US Toll-free
- Meeting ID: 910 5700 0591 / Passcode: 750718

AIAA-NE online information:

- LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/aiaa-new-england>
- Website: <https://engage.aiaa.org/newengland/home>

Attendees: Charlie Wilson, Endri Lesha, Gary Wolfe, Tom Robbins, Joe Vornehm, David Guo, Bruce Mackenzie, John Blandino, Allison Tsay, Masoud Rais-Rohani, Ian Dargin, Jefferey Mobed, Krystina Walters, John Maris, Umanga Balasuriya, Al Moussa, Hiro Endo

Apologies: Medhi Mortazavi

## 1. Opening Remarks & Administration (Charlie)

---

- Special guests tonight:
  - Prof. Masoud Rais-Rohani
    - Prof. Rais-Rohani is a decorated scholar and a lifetime member and Associate Fellow of AIAA. He has over 30 years of combined experience as an engineering educator, mentor, researcher, and administrator with three degrees in Aerospace Engineering. He currently serves as a Deputy Director of AD&S (2014–present), a member of the Technical Initiatives Subcommittee.
    - Prof. Rais-Rohani Joined the meeting tonight to introduce himself and give us a pitch on his candidacy for AIAA Director of the Aerospace Design and Structures (AD&S) Technical Group, which includes 10 technical committees (TCs)
    - He wants to make TC membership more professionally fulfilling – more than just reviewing papers...
      - Strengthening the membership pipeline so that more student members join AIAA as professional members...
      - Opportunities for joint events and collaborative activities with AIAA regions and sections, including AIAA-NE
      - Use of hybrid model: Continue virtual sessions post COVID (it gives broader outreach) with in-person events
    - The election will be from Jan 27 – Feb 19. Please vote ([Nominations and Elections | AIAA](#))!
  - Dr. John Maris
    - Dr. Maris is the Chairman of the Montreal Branch of the Royal Aeronautical Society. He is an Aviation Week and Space Technology Laureate and a Canadian Aviation Hall of Fame inductee. Dr. Maris is an Associate Fellow of the Society of Experimental Test Pilots and has a Ph.D. in Aviation Safety and Human Factors. He is a practicing aeronautical engineer, lecturer, and experimental test pilot.
    - Dr. Maris joined the meeting to say “hi” and discuss how AIAA and RAS could collaborate.
    - Dr. Maris will be giving a zoom talk “Perspectives on (Aerodynamic) Drag” on Feb 18<sup>th</sup>.  
[https://www.linkedin.com/posts/aiaa-new-england\\_royal-aeronautical-society-montreal-is-activity-6757459596677267456-yJPu](https://www.linkedin.com/posts/aiaa-new-england_royal-aeronautical-society-montreal-is-activity-6757459596677267456-yJPu)

## 2. Reports by Committee Chairs & Volunteers:

---

- Website/LinkedIn (Hiro)
  - Jan 21 Stats: 903 post impressions (up from 350) / 41 followers (up from 35)
- Expenditures (David)
  - Expenses: total of \$3600 spent in Jan, including
    - \$1500 for Tello drones and UPS postage
    - \$1300 on Newsletter
  - Income: Received rebate \$6000
  - \$12,000 in checking account
- Aero-Robotics Competition - ARC (Allison)
  - We have 2 teams so far – trying to add more... (She will talk to Qiana to see if she can help with high school outreach)
  - Looking for more volunteers to help with operations (<https://www.aeroroboticscomp.com/>)
- Report on the Zoom session with National Society of Black Engineers on Dec 12 (Endri)
  - Had a conversation on how we can help each other – discussed the opportunities on
    - \$250 STEM grants
    - ARC competition – recruit teams and mentors
    - Find liaison to New England council
    - Find more Black members for the Section
    - Endri reached out again but has not received a response yet...
    - Charlie has zoom with them and this year's AIAA Diversity Award winner on Jan 19
- Newsletter (Charlie / Jeff)
  - Our first hard-copy newsletter is out - Thank you Jeff for the design & editing work
  - Prof. Gene Niemi – A possible article for Aerospace America? (Charlie)
  - Plan to keep it going regularly because only 20% of our emails and Engages are ever opened
- Upcoming Zoom Webinars
  - Jan 2021 – Gary will reach out to Konstantine Fetfatsidis: “3D metal & composite printing / Additive manufacturing technologies”
  - Feb 2021 – Odysseus climate sensing system described by Harvard Prof James Anderson at SciTech Forum 360 on January 9
  - Feb 18, 2021 – Cross-promote Dr. Maris’ talk “Perspectives on (Aerodynamic) Drag”
  - Other upcoming Zoom talks topics:
    - Deborah Douglas on the new MIT museum
    - Lauren Trollinger may be able to link us into one or more Vertical Flight Society [was American Helicopter Society] zooms
    - A Distinguished Lecture
    - Dr. Elad Kivelevitch (Mathworks): AIAA Intelligent Systems TC
    - WPI Jet Engine Project Team – Student Presentation
    - WPI Rocket Launch Team – Student Presentation
    - WoAA at MIT and WPI
- STEM Outreach (Endri)
  - Received an application from a Spaulding Memorial School 4th grade teacher
    - The topic of the proposal: The use of drones to pollinate plants

- Approved for purchase of four drones
- College Outreach (Medhi)
  - 9 branches are organized so far
  - Sent a copy of Dr. Forczyk's book "Rise of the Space Age Millennials" to each branch prior to her Nov 17th zoom
  - Unfortunately, Mehdi must to take a break from the role due to his work commitments
  - Preparing to reach out to college student members who are not at a school with a student branch (e.g. UNH) - volunteer?
  - Preparing leadership certificates for students groups - volunteer?
  - WPI Jet Engine Team:
    - Hiro had a meeting with the student team and went over the key points of the projects and reviewed the draft proposal.
    - Students are planning to complete the revised proposal for funding and resubmit it by the end of Jan.
  - WPI Rocket Team:
    - Hiro had a meeting with a student rep (Julia Sheath) – They are interested in presenting their work at AIAA zoom sometime in late Feb or March
- WoAA / WPI Student Branch (Krys)
  - Distributed ARC information to WoAA branches at MIT and WPI
  - AIAA WPI running very well
    - Strong interest in various topics
    - Talks and events are currently being planned
    - Students are very interested in the ARC competition
- Public Policy (David)
  - Held 1<sup>st</sup> committee with Steve Sidorek from the HQ – Discussed the plan to reach out to the members of congress and went over the proposed agenda to address to them
- Honors & Awards (Charlie)
  - Glass desk award for sustained dedicated service delivered last month to David Guo
  - 8+ more being readied
  - Framed certificates for AIAA Student Branch leaders being prepared, cost with frame to be \$9 each + UPS postage. Purpose - get more student branch members to join AIAA and more students to join Student Branches
- New business:
  - Possibly distribute posters for Hampton Roads' middle school essay contests – Topic: "What they can do in the moon"
  - Provide STK expertise in the section – Endri
    - Endri is competing a Master course in the Systems Tool Kit platform from AGI
    - Ideas for projects he can do for the section using STK
      - Bruce: trajectories and orbits
      - Ian: reducing orbital debris
      - Charlie: map of membership in section, including Canadian members
  - Red Sox Game – Unlikely to happen in 2021 due to COVID. Put it on hold now.
  - Ian Dargin: Recruiting for Electro-Magnetic Wave researcher. He may get SBIR funding.
    - Allison Tsay is interested in the opportunity
  - Dr. Al Mousa: Blaze Tech is hiring – Looking for candidates to fill an R&D Position in Physics, Electrical or Mechanical Engineering (<https://lnkd.in/eY43tQE>)

### 3. Other

---

- Next council meeting on February 18, 7:00pm-8:00pm.
- Charlie will circulate a draft chart for the Region I Regional Advisory Committee, RAC, meeting on Feb 4