

2011 Annual General Meeting of the Sensometric Society (Sept 6, 2011, Toronto)

Present: Pascal Schlich, Anne Hasted, Hal Macfie, Richard Popper, Pieter Punter, Thierry Worch, Nicolas Pineau, John Ennis, Sebastien L , Beno t Rousseau, Tom Carr, Yvonne Taylor, Dominic Buck, John Castura (chair), Per Brockhoff (secretary)

Minutes:

- 1) **The minutes of the previous meeting held at the 10th Sensometrics Meeting Rotterdam – The Netherlands on July 26, 2010 could be read on the web page. A vote of approval of these minutes shall be called for.**
Pascal Schlich: "Excellent meeting" – Minutes approved.

- 2) **Chairman's report**

Past, current and planned activities:

- **Partner up with Society of Sensory Professionals (SSP)**
- **Partner up with ASTM committee E18**
- **Partner up with ESN**
- **Joint symposium with SSP (held during both SSP symposium and Sensometrics 2012)**
- **Revise the role of the yahoogroup mailing list and establish a discussion forum on our website**

Construction areas of the committee

- **John Castura (vice-chair): web-site renewal, membership benefits**
- **Anne Hasted (treasurer): all membership related issues**
- **Per Brockhoff (secretary): minutes, documentation**
- **Isabelle Lesschaeve: membership benefits**
- **S bastien L : Sensometrics 2012**
- **Jean-Francois Meullenet: Collaboration with SSP**
- **Thierry Worch: Corporate sponsorship**

John Castura went through the Report.

- On Joint symposium idea:
Richard Popper: It was the idea to do (more or less) the SAME symposium at the two meetings: Sensometrics and SSP. Topic not finally decided. Decision by the SSP organizers is expected within few weeks.
- On Yahoo group:
Moderated by Kernon Gibes. Only rarely used. Options for this forum are under consideration by the committee.

The report was approved.

- 3) **Treasurer's report**

Anne Hasted went through the treasurer's report. Made in Pound Sterling (rather than Euro) since three out of four accounts are in Pound. A couple of comments: The workshops in Holland at the Conference became a bit more expensive than anticipated (due to necessary change of plans). The somewhat high bank fees were noted – probably due to electronic transfers. This will be looked into in the future. The report was accepted.

- 4) **Membership issues**

- a) **New member category without FQP**

- **Discussed during last AGM**
- **We followed up with Elsevier**
- **Unfortunately, we cannot offer this if we want to keep FQP as the society's journal**
- **We will not pursue this any further**

- b) **Member benefits**

- **Several benefits added since last AGM:**
 - **access to Food Quality and Preference**
 - **discounts on registration fees for Sensometrics meetings**

- access to the society's private members directory
(Please update your profiles and make details visible to members!)
- access to sensometrics@yahoogroups
- 20% discount on publications by CRC Press
- 20% discount on selected publications by Wiley
- discounts for short courses and conferences (e.g. by The Institute for Perception, "1st Olfaction and Issues Meeting 2010")

Please make use of these discounts – they will be evaluated; if not used enough, they might not be renewed.

- **Further benefits:**
Please share proactively ideas or approach conference / course organizers to see whether they might be willing to offer discounts. In return, we might feature them on our website, thereby increasing the visibility. Any other proposals are welcome, too.

c) Membership details

Please use the new web interface to change your personal details, in particular also addresses for FQAP. Anne regularly updates the records for Elsevier based on this information.

Pieter Punter: Suggested to share info/links with new European Sensory Society website. Tom Carr: Maybe also to SSP-people/website. Benoît Rousseau: Some (monthly??) newsletters/announcements from the Society would be a good idea to make people get a feeling of the Society being active.

5) Web site

- Thanks to Hal MacFie and Ian Wakeling for maintaining the website for many years
- We launched a completely revised web site in October 2010
- online registration / payment / changes
- members-only content (requires login)
- regular updates
- Please send proposals to webadmin@sensometric.org
- For the new website, thank you to...
 - John Castura for configuring the website, importing member data, solving numerous technical problems,... What a terrific job!!!!
 - Anne Hasted for going through all the hassle with PayPal and for a lot of very valuable input on everything related to membership.
 - Barbara Pfeiffer for continuously designing and maintaining contents.
 - All others involved...
- From last AGM:
 - chairman's blog (done to some extent)
 - codes for statistical analysis
 - tutorials
 - mini-review of papers
 - data sets
 - ...
 - Unfortunately, our requests for input have not been honored yet. Why?

Anne Hasted: We should make sure that the website is updated always – someone should take up the responsibility for that. John Castura: Please share data sets! Richard Popper: gave the idea, based on a newly set up Wiki in SSP, to make some kind of competition and/or some reward/price in that relation, to encourage people to be active.

Web site / Yahoogroup

- We consider abandoning discussion at yahoogroup (not used much anyway).
- Instead, we might implement a members-only discussion forum on the website.
- Yahoogroup would then be used exclusively for announcements from the committee.
- Any thoughts?

6) Past Sensometrics meeting Rotterdam

- The meeting went very well
- Accounts were about balanced
- Thanks again to Pieter, Garnt and Aimée for organizing a great event!
- Special issue of FQAP about to be finalized; should be available very soon.

Pieter Punter: It was a nice meeting to arrange, although he was scared to death about things.

7) Future Sensometrics meetings

- 11th Meeting, July 10-13, 2012: Rennes, France (Sebastien Lê)
- 12th Meeting 2014: Chicago, USA (Tom Carr)
- 13th Sensometrics, mid-end July 2016: Brighton, UK (Dominic Buck, K. Greenhoff, Y. Taylor)

Sebastien Lê: Website up and running. Scientific committee almost in place.

Tom Carr: Currently it is being discussed exactly where the 12th will take place. A dinner cruise on Lake Michigan is under investigation. Dominic, Yvonne and Keith were congratulated on the commitment of doing the 13th in UK.

8) Short courses @ Sensometrics and beyond

- Feedback for short courses in Rotterdam was positive.
- Thanks again to Hal and Anne for the great organization!
- Two of the courses offered @ Pangborn under a commercial umbrella
- No other courses offered in Toronto
- For 2012:
 - Need to collect new proposals for courses and check which should be repeated
 - How can we keep successful courses under the Sensometrics umbrella instead of them going commercial (we cannot come up with 3-5 new courses biannually)?
 - Need to identify organizer(s) for courses satellite to the meeting in Rennes

John Ennis: Would like the Society to commit themselves to (maybe) fewer workshops and then doing them prior to the conference rather than after. Sebastien Lê: It is planned to do it the UseR way: invite openly

anyone to prepare a (short) PRE-conference workshop. The costs will be low, although strictly positive. Hal

Macfie: we could use society funds to support this – at least for students.

9) Elections 2012

No elections this year, but in 2012 the following terms end:

- Chair (outgoing: Michael Meyners)
- Secretary (outgoing: Per Brockhoff)
- 2 Ordinary Members (outgoing: Isabelle Lesschaeve*, Sébastien Lê*)

* Not eligible for another term in the same position.

- Please start thinking about nominations and communicate them to chair@sensometric.org

No comments.

10) Other topics

Potential Sensometrics activity at the Eurosense in Bern was discussed. Pascal Schlich is invited as speaker.

Contact will be taken to the Eurosense organizers to discuss the option of doing a Sensometrics session/workshop – potentially as a follow up/support of Pascal's contribution. Hal made the point that review and/or tutorial talks were better suited for this meeting than an actual workshop. Richard Popper noted that, IF a data-oriented workshop should be arranged, it is important that it BETTER than in the past focus on the integration/comparison of results rather than "just" showing a number of different results on the same data without any "learning from that".

A workshop about (internal) preference mapping is planned for the Rennes meeting. The idea came up as a consequence of Benoît Rousseau's comment to Hal Macfie's talk about ideal point versus vector mapping.