Tampa Bay IEEE RAS Chapter

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Minutes: 4/17/2012

There were 12 IEEE members, 1 Non-IEEE Student, and 3 guests present

IEEE ROBOTICS AND AUTOMATION SOCIETY (RAS)

Location: University of South Florida,

4202 E. Fowler Ave., Tampa, FL 33620;

Center for Urban Transportation Research, First Floor, Room CUTR 102

Date: April 17, 2012

Time: 6:30pm to 7:30pm

The April 2012 Meeting of the RAS Society was called by Chairman George Schott at the University of South Florida. There were a total of 16 people made of 12 IEEE members, 1 Non-IEEE Student, and 3 guests present.

OFFICER ROLL CALL:

o   Chairman – George Schott

o   Vice-Chairman – Ken Fiallos

o   Treasurer – George Schott

o   Secretary – Sean Denny

o   WEB Master – Victor Basantes

o   Membership coordinator –Jim Anderson-Absent

o   Facilities Coordinator – Robert Franklin-Absent

o   Publicity coordinator – Jim Melton-Excused

o   Programs coordinator – Jim Melton-Excused

o   Chapter Photographer – George Schott

George explained there was not a March Meeting because Hillsborough Community College was on Spring Break and not available to us. The February and April 2012 Minutes need to be voted on at the May meeting.

PRESENTATION:

Felipe Tranquilini, a member of the USF robotics club, led a presentation on the technical details of the construction of the robot they built and entered in South East Con Convention in March. The competition was held at the Wyndham Hotel in Orlando. The ten member USF Robotics team concentrated on the Hardware part of the competition. Between November 2011 and March 2012, the robot was built to traverse a maze-like course. The team spent approximately $1300 of their budgeted funds. $700 of that went into the actual construction and the rest was registration for the team. There were four versions of the robot which ended up with 20 sensors using Arduino Circuit boards. They improved the probes and wheels.

Shaun Reynolds discussed the details of the construction and explained the Wave Form Task Circuit. They wrote over 2,000 lines of code. However, Robot Version 3.0 went up in flames.

Shawn Gicka outlined the actual competition, what worked or didn't work. They had issues with the Voltage Regulator. They came in 21st Place of 52 registered teams. After the convention, they fixed the Voltage issue.

The 2013 SoutheastCon Convention was proposed for Jacksonville, FL. Teams will need to figure out a sorting challenge. Disha Saha, dsaha@mail.usf.edu, is organizing next year's team.

A USF Professor present congratulated the team on their performance.

NEW BUSINESS:

The regular business of the status of the RAS Treasury and Special Recognition was postponed till May. Victor Basantes lead a brief discussion on how the Robotics and Automation Society can recruit the community to the IEEE. George, Ken, and Sean gave a brief history on how the local RAS Chapter came to be from their own perspectives.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Sean Denny invited everyone to the IEEE Teacher In Service Symposium at the Hilton Airport Tampa Westshore Hotel on May 19-20, 2012. He will give a Presentation on the History of TISP in Tampa on May 20 at 9AM. Sean asked if he could give this presentation at the May RAS meeting.

Adjourned at 7:30pm by George Schott; Seconded by Victor Basantes.