

190th ASA Meeting – Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Physical Acoustics Technical Committee Meeting
Thursday, May 14, 2026
5:30 – 6:30 pm

TC Chair: Dr. Chris Kube

Student Council Representative: Makayle Kellison

In Person Attendees: 45

Virtual Attendees: 5

Meeting called to order at 5:32 pm

- Official gavel was used. This PA traditional started in 1977.
- The purpose of this meeting is to relay information from the Technical Council meeting on Monday and receive feedback to bring to Friday's Tech Council meeting. We will also recognize award winners and discuss special sessions at future meetings.

Agenda

- Welcome!
- Committee members will give brief reports.
- Sign-in time
- News and information from technical/executive council will be presented.
- Congrats to new awardees and fellows!
- We will give an overview of special sessions.
- The new PATC Chair will be introduced, and the gavel will be passed.

Administrative Committee Representative Reports

Medals and Awards (Yun Jing)

- Not present.

Standards (Greg Lyons)

- Not present.

Membership (Joseph Turner)

- The membership committee works to expand the society and find new members.
- They also accept and review nominations for new fellows. There were five nominated fellows prior to this meeting, none were PA.
- We are encouraged to nominate more PA fellows!
- **Question:** Is there an easy way to see if there are members of the TC that are not yet fellows? Yes, the ASA membership directory.

Student Council (Makayle Kellison)

- See below.

CIRDI (Feruza Amirkulova)

- This summer SURIA will host twelve students, seven of which are supported by faculty directly. The SURIA program is still seeking faculty mentors.
- NOTE: The SURIA website is currently being updated.
- SURIA has been around for five years. It is an ASA sponsored program that hosts approximately 10-12 undergrads to do acoustics related research or an internship over the summer. The students are brought together for a short course once during the summer.
- SURIA aims to build an early interest in acoustics, and targets students with significant barriers to careers in STEM.

Student Council Updates

- Student council rep: Makayle Kellison, BYU
- Student council now has a Linktree with all of our links contained in one place.
- About 350 students registered for this meeting and approximately 100 people attended the first-time student orientation.
- The student gift was a hit this year! Shirts! We are hoping to ask ASA if we can make shirts for everyone for future meetings, but we will need additional budget.
- Student council has started a Discord – a great place for students to connect before the meeting and communicate during the meeting.

Time to Sign In!

News/Information

News from the Public Relations Committee

- The ASA gets contacted several times per year from journalists and other news outlets.
- The PR Committee has tried to automate this process by connecting journalists directly with TC liaisons. Prior to this, all inquiries just went to the chair of the PR committee and Elaine.
- Connecting with journalists is great way to practice science communication and bring visibility to the society.
- The PR Committee gives out science communication awards every two years, and these were awarded here in Philadelphia. One category of awards is for ASA members, which recognizes scientists who communicate with the public. Another category of award goes to the actual journalists who write about acoustics-related topics.

JASA Special Issue on Acoustic and Ultrasonic Characterization of Materials for Engineering Applications

- JASA and JASA EL are always interested in new topics for special issues.
- Putting together special issues help with the Journal's impact factor.
 - o The Impact Factor is predicted to be 2.5 for next year.
- Articles accepted into JASA special issues are open access/free for a year, so these papers typically get more visibility.
- There are already two papers submitted for the Special Issue on Acoustic and Ultrasonic Characterization of Materials for Engineering Applications.
- **Question:** Do others find the JASA EL font too small?
 - o This feedback will be taken back to the journal editors.

Awards & New Fellows

New Fellows as of Spring 2026

- Congrats Kang Kim, Tatiana Khokhlova, & Likun Zhang
- All these new fellows have ties to PA (see slides for specific considerations).

Other Awards

- **Gold Medal in Acoustics:** Anthony A. Atchley
- **Helmholtz-Rayleigh Interdisciplinary Silver Medal in Physical Acoustics and Biomedical Acoustics:** Oleg Sapozhnikov
- **Trent-Crede Medal:** Andrew N. Norris
- **Rossing Prize in Acoustics Education:** Daniel R. Russell
- **Frederick V. Hunt Postdoctoral Research Fellowship in Acoustics:** Chirag Gokani

Philadelphia Special Sessions

- There were seven PA-sponsored special sessions at this meeting.
 - o The Acoustics at the Synchrotron and Neutron Beamlines special session went well! We want to try to grow this area in the future.
 - o It was exciting to see so many people at the session dedicated to Allan D. Pierce, and we are grateful he was able to join over Zoom
- We also had several general topics in PA sessions
- Do we feel that there are any PA topics that we were missing at this meeting?
 - o More nonlinear acoustics and shock waves.

Future Meetings & Special Sessions

Fall 2026: Baltimore

- Abstract deadline is still TBD.
- Registration costs are \$200 less than a typical meeting because it is a 3-day meeting.
- The meeting will be from Tuesday to Thursday.
- Because PA is so broad, we have a challenge not conflicting with other TC meetings.
 - o Our TC meeting will be joint with SA, EA, Noise, and possibly others in Baltimore.
 - o Some of the stuff that is PA specific (links to submit special session) will be done in advance. This will likely be about a week before the actual meeting.
 - o There is some discussion with doing unique things at the meeting – cash bar?
 - o ASA's Centennial Celebration is coming up in Spring 2029. Having a large crowd at the TC meeting will be good to plan for this in Baltimore.
 - No members of the Centennial planning committee were present.
- There will be general PA sessions at the Baltimore Meeting as well
- **Question:** When will we know if sessions in Baltimore will be in alternative formats to fit everything in the technical program? Is this information going to come out soon? It will help students and faculty decide if they are going to attend the meeting.
 - o Technical council is aware of this issue.

Spring 2027: Brussels

- Additional student funding will be available from the “Funds to Flanders.”

- ~\$100,000 was used for the “Down Under Funder” in Sydney. A similar amount is expected for Brussels.
- Usually, at this point in the week, we are confirming cochairs and finalizing special sessions for the next spring meeting.
- However, we only recently received the proposed special sessions for Brussels from the European Acoustics Association.
- Because of this, all TCs are still sorting out which special sessions to include, so we cannot finalize details yet.
- In PA, there have been 15 special sessions proposed so far. While this may seem like a lot, we are a large TC. We likely won't be eliminating anything unless there is a huge protest.

- **Comment:** There is a [European Society of Sonochemistry](#), and they only meet every 2 years. It is expected that their next meeting is around the time of ASA Brussels. A special PA sponsored special session on Sonochemistry was suggested to encourage this group to connect with a broader acoustics community.
 - o There is currently no link to submit additional special sessions, but please send Chris an email if you have any additional ideas.
- **Comment:** Nondestructive Testing and Evaluation session (Brian Anderson) should have SP as a primary sponsor, not PA.
- **Question:** Why is there no infrasound session? There is lots of EAA interest in this topic.
- **Question:** Regarding the proposed special session titled, “Experimental and Theoretical Approaches in Physical Acoustics:” This seems like a very broad session. How will this be managed?
 - o This session was proposed by EAA, and Chris was not aware. He will try to make the final session more specific. One possibility is that it would just turn into a general PA session.
- **Question:** Why is there nothing aeroacoustics related listed as a special session in Brussels? This would be a great chance to bring in EAA people.
 - o There might already be a proposed special session on this in TC Noise.
- **Question:** Do we need a co-coordinator from Europe for every special session?
 - o Possible explanation: Conference session planning is very different in Europe. They often propose very general session topics and then down select after abstracts are submitted.
- **Comment:** When submitting an abstract, you can only see the special sessions for your primary TC. So, if you do not pick the correct primary TC, you can easily miss some of the special session hosted by other TCs. We should try to find a way to fix this, particularly for our European colleagues who will not be familiar with our portal when submitting abstracts for Brussels.
 - o This will be brought to Technical Council.

Open Floor

- What about the next meeting (Fall 2027)?
 - o The meetings committee met on Tuesday.
 - o Things are still up in the air, but Executive council will vote tomorrow on hosting the fall 2027 meeting in Spokane, Washington. This will also be a 3-day meeting.

- The idea is that smaller cities will save the society costs and lower registration fees for all members.
- There are obviously growing pains with adjusting to a 3-day meeting. We are not used to this as a society. However, Executive and Technical Council are hoping to gather feedback after the fall 2026 3-day meeting in Baltimore.
- **Question:** Is a 3-day meeting consistent with a smaller venue?
 - Having a 3-day meeting will reduce the rooms per day cost.
- **Question:** Will they have evening sessions at 3-day meetings?
 - Yes, sessions will run later. The exact times will be determined by TPOM
- **Comment:** I would love to see a plan from the society that maps out their strategy with meetings. Why are we doing 3-day meetings?
 - Technical Council is not in the loop for the reasons behind these decisions.
 - **Comment:** The thought process is that having a 3-day meeting in Baltimore will allow for leadership to gather feedback and make improvements to this new meeting structure. Therefore, they want to have a second 3-day meeting to see if they can implement some of these changes and improve the 3-day meeting structure.
 - **Question:** Why is there no formal communication about this to the whole society?

Welcome New PATC Chair

- Likun Zhang, starting Fall 2026 from University of Mississippi.

Meeting adjourned at 6:19 pm