

EURON 6th Board Meeting
29 March 2007
Chania, Crete, Greece

Participants:

Herman Bruyninckx, KUL, BE
Angel del Pobil, UJI, ES
Alicia Casals, UPC, ES
Kostas Kyriakopoulos, NTUA, GR
Bruno Siciliano, UNINA, IT
Frans Groen, UVA, NL
Martin Hägele, FhG-IPA, DE
Jadran Lenarcic, JSI, SI
Markus Vincze, ACIN, AT
Michael Pardowitz, UKA, DE
Miguel Salichs, UC3M, ES
Jüri Vain, TTU, EE
Jeanna Ayoubi, KTH, SE (adm)

Agenda

1. Reporting 3rd year of EURON
2. Evaluation of Research Projects from Call 1 and 2
3. EURON Magazine
4. EUROS 2008
5. Open Call for PRPs and SIGs
6. Future of EURON
7. Meeting with new PO
8. Other issues

Introduction

This Board meeting is held in connection with EURON annual meeting.

Herman Bruyninckx – the scientific coordinator of EURON – welcomed everybody to the meeting. He presented the agenda which was adopted by the Board.

1. Reporting 3rd year of EURON

- the 3rd year of EURON II ends on 30/4-07
- the deadline for sending the reports/deliverables to the European Commission is 15/6-07
- Herman and Jeanna needs the input from the KA coordinators by the end of May
- the suggested dates for the review meeting are the week of 18-23 of June 07
- it is important that at least the KA coordinators are present at the review
- suggestions on potential reviewers are welcome to be sent to Herman who will forward this information to Anne Bajart – EURON's new project officer
- it was suggested to have a person with experience of networks of excellence as one of the reviewers (Herman and Jeanna will investigate the status with the previous reviewers)

- the Board members agree that it would be much better if the review meeting would be held in Brussels, as Luxembourg is more difficult to reach for one day events. Herman will communicate this option to PO

2. Evaluation of Research Projects from Call 1 and 2

- The results of **PRP “Lower-extremity movement restoration through muscle closed-loop FES control using natural sensor feedback”** coordinated by Christine Azevedo of LIRMM/INRIA are **approved** by the Board

- The results of **RA “Network Robot Systems”** coordinated by Alberto Sanfeliu from UPC are **approved** by the Board

- It is decided that the Education KA coordinators (Roland and Alicia) has to take the lead in evaluating process of the results of **RA ROSE** coordinated by John Hallam, SDU and Herman Bruyninckx, KULeuven, as Herman has a conflict of interest. **Decision from the Board is needed ASAP.**

3. EURON Magazine

The offer sent by Atlantic Press has been previously presented to the Board by Dissemination KA coordinator Bruno Siciliano. Board decision is to say **NO** to the described offer and instead ask Atlantic Press for a contract to issue ~10 news letters on the on-going EURON events.

The decision for the previously suggested open access journal is also **negative**.

4. EUROS 2008

Dates for the meeting: **26-29 of March 2008 in Prague**

Programme committee: Jorge Dias and Herman Bruyninckx

Local organiser - Libor Preucil, CTU

Board members recommend to advertise/announce the call early enough to attract more people to the event:

- *ask Libor to send EUROS flyers to Bruno in order to spread the info at ICRA

- *Bruno & Kostas will put the info in IEEE Magazine (EURON column)

- *it is suggested to publish the call in September with deadline in November 2007

- * as the main attraction to EUROS must be high quality of the programme, thus it is important to invite high quality speakers - concrete suggestions are welcome to be sent to Herman and Jorge

- *it is also important to have high quality review procedure:

 - Angel P., Bruno S. & Juri V. will investigate software support possibilities and costs for different options of evaluation procedure

 - one of the suggestions made by the Board is to have a procedure with main and associated editors in cooperation

 - it is seen as a good idea if the reviewers will be offered the possibility to communicate with authors (this must be monitored by PC members)

- *it is of high importance to find a good focus for the meeting (suggestions are welcome to be sent to the coordinator)

- *it is suggested to try to attract more PhD students by, for example, organising special activities (tutorials; “industry partners meet students” Workshops, etc.)

- *EUROS should cooperate with EUnited

5. Status of the Open Call for PRPs and SIGs

- the Review committee members are: Markus V., Ognyan M. and John H.
- proposals received are still too weak and many of them do not pass even the first steps of the review procedure
- several proposals are under review
- the evaluation committee sent its recommendation for funding of the PRP "*Electroactive polymer (EAP) AI muscles for hybrid bionic applications*"
Decision : the project is *approved by the Board*; the review report will be sent to the proposers
- the evaluation committee members report good experience of communication between the review committee and the authors

6. Future of EURON

The coordinator (Herman B.) informs the Board that a concrete decision on the future of EURON must be taken by the end of this year. He presented some possible scenarios to the EURON community at the annual meeting and will distribute the information through euron-dist@ list. One of the options is to apply for new funding from EC (CA instrument).

The perception from most EURON members for continuation of the network is positive - most people would like to see a continuation of such activities as common website, summer schools and annual meetings. Herman indicates that cooperation with EUROP and EUCognition can bring out new ideas.

7. Meeting with new PO

The new Project Officer, Anne Bajart, didn't have the possibility to attend this EURON meeting. But as she still wants to meet the members of the Board, she would like to invite EURON representatives together with the coordinator to come to Luxembourg. The suggested dates are 16 or 17 of April.

It is important to have as many KA coordinators as possible present at this meeting as this is a perfect opportunity for presenting the project shortly before the review of the 3rd year. Herman will compose the agenda and forward to EC officer - suggestions are welcome.

8. Other issues

Jadran L. wishes to see more initiatives to come from PhD students. It is good for them to take the opportunity of being a part of such a network as EURON. Concrete suggestions are welcome.

Herman received offers from Jüri Vain and Miguel A. Salichs to host a EURON event in the future.

End of meeting