

Section news

Symposium on audio research and practice in Belgium



On May 14, the Belgian Section of the Audio Engineering Society organized the Symposium on Audio Research and Practice in Belgium in conjunction with the University of Ghent (UGent).

The symposium was chaired by Federica Bressan, a postdoctoral researcher at UGent, and AES Belgium Section chair Brecht De Man. It took place at De Krook, a new building hosting the public library, startup accelerators, and part of the University of Ghent including the Institute for Psychoacoustics and Electronic Music (IPEM).

The goal of this event was to bring this community closer together, and for the Section leadership to gauge interest and competences in the small, multilingual region. They were further encouraged by voices from industry and academia, who found that despite short distances the graduates and job openings don't always find each other, and research groups are not very aware of work happening in nearby institutions.

The support of the AES is a powerful catalyst in this endeavor, first in reaching part of the community by contacting local membership, and further by lending legitimacy to the organization and providing a vehicle to support further events and connect the attendees.

The afternoon was a mix of a dozen talks and a few demos, selected from responses to a call for proposals. The scope was intentionally

broad and encompassed academic, artistic, and corporate projects—from larger overviews to technical presentations. Speakers came from universities as well as from multinational companies and SMEs. With 75 registrations and a healthy number of talk proposals, the size exceeded even the organizers' expectations, and part of the afternoon was split into themed tracks to accommodate all. The event was concluded in style with a live coding music concert by Dago Sondervan in IPEM's immersive Art-Science-Interaction Lab.

As an epilogue to the event, the organizers have distributed a survey for Belgian audio engineers, specifically to gauge their fields of expertise. This may help tailor section activities to the needs of the community.

The Belgian Section had been all but dormant for some time, with the exception of some Belgian Student Section events to which the wider membership was invited, until a year ago when chair Brecht de Man, vice chair Frank Duchêne, and secretary Gert Van Hoof revived the section and organized a few get-togethers. This event marks the first big effort in the mission to connect the Belgian audio community.

More information about the event can be found on bit.ly/AudioSymposium. Related social media news uses the hashtag #AudioInBelgium.

Brecht de Man

AES Taiwan's second meeting of the year



AES Taiwan held their second meeting of the year on May 25. The highlight of the meeting was Jin H. Huang's talk on the prospects of Taiwan's current electroacoustic industry education.

The Master's Program of Electroacoustics (FCU) was supported by MERRY who is a leading manufacturer of Total Electroacoustics Solutions and formally established in 2008, recruiting well-known experts at home and abroad to give lectures. Course design and teaching content are in line with industry needs, combining theory with practice to ensure the quality of teaching and pursue continuous improvement through the IIEET education certification. At the same time, graduates are internationally recognized. Over the years, the Master's Program of electroacoustics (FCU) has been working with the Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST) for several big projects including EATD, which was led by Jin H. Huang to provide relevant resources and technologies as well as product feature verification.

The second part of the meeting detailed the slate for the election of the section chair and the board of supervisors. Registration and voting begins on October 19 and the newly elected board will be installed at the meeting scheduled for November 23.

The meeting ended with updates on the section's groups activities and the Audio Achievement Award.

Hsiao-Yu Hsu

We appreciate the assistance of the section secretaries in providing the information for these reports. Statements reported here are the personal opinions of the presenters, which may not represent the opinions of the AES or the audio industry at large.