

Minutes from February 8 meeting of the ns-3 Consortium Advisory Board

Minutes taken by Tom Henderson

Attending: Tom Henderson, Manuel Ricardo, Sandra Lagen, Doug Blough, Mohit Tahliliani, Walid Dabbous

Agenda:

- 1) Review consortium budget
- 2) Progress report on WiGig/Wi-Fi integration (Sebastien Deronne)
- 3) Report on NIST WNS3 hosting discussions (for 2022 and 2023)
- 4) Plans for virtual WNS3 2022 (week of June 20)

Tom shared that the available balance in the Consortium accounts at the University of Washington totaled to approximately \$15,200 at the start of the new year, and roughly \$6000 to \$8000 is outstanding in funding commitments to Sebastien Deronne for WiGig integration work. Given that WNS3 will be held virtually in 2022, the main workshop cost will be publication fees, amounting to \$1000. To fund further software work and to position the consortium to support travel grants for future meetings, the consortium will need to attract additional industrial funding; sponsorship of WNS3 may be an option to try.

Tom shared a report from Sebastien that the first phase of the latest WiGig integration effort has proceeded slower than scheduled due to unforeseen difficulties, and that the first phase is already over budget. Tom advised Sebastien to complete the work items on the first phase even if over budget, before turning to the DMG PHY entity and DMG MAC frame exchange manager work. The original budget for this work was roughly \$6000 but it appears that it may take \$8000 or more to complete.

Doug asked whether the port will include 802.11ay or 802.11ad only, and Tom replied that he believed the focus was on 11ad because that was IMDEA's previous focus. However, IMDEA has more recently worked on 11ay, and Doug pointed out that the latest IMDEA code had 11ay features. Despite being a beneficiary/consumer of this work downstream, Doug questioned the possible cost/benefit of funding a lot of work on mmWave Wi-Fi if it is a niche market. Tom suggested to schedule a telecon with Sebastien and Doug to discuss the remaining work.

Tom summarized two meetings that he and Richard Rouil of NIST had held with conference planning staff at NIST, regarding possibly hosting WNS3 2022 or 2023 at NIST's Gaithersburg campus. Given the uncertainty about international travel and local logistics for conferences this summer, and the facility's unavailability in June 2022, he decided to hold WNS3 2022 again virtually. However, NIST encouraged us to consider the start of planning discussions for 2023 this spring if we want to hold it at that site. The currently available NCCOE site may be too remote to be an ideal venue, and the NIST cafeteria on the main campus may still be under renovation in 2023. One concern about holding WNS3 in person would be the liability for a large fixed hosting cost in the event that in-person attendance was low. We decided to further

explore the fixed costs of WNS3 2023 at NIST or the Washington DC area, but also to look outside of that area to other locations that may offer a low cost, low risk site.

Tom asked about ideas for WNS3 2022, besides the advanced tutorials, paper presentations, lightning talks, and consortium meeting held in 2021. One possibility would be to organize hackathons or coding sprints led by maintainers. Another possibility socialized was to hold a feedback session for users to ask about or report on issues with ns-3 modules, or for ns-3 maintainers to speak a bit about roadmaps for their respective modules. Tom agreed to poll the ns-3 maintainers about these ideas as a next step.

Finally, Walid reported that he was unable to participate in the consortium meetings recently but that he is able to restart. Two previous INRIA representatives to the consortium, Marc Barret and Damien Saucez, had left INRIA, although Damien has now returned. Walid mentioned that a major focus of their work would continue to be on testbeds via the European SLICES project.

We agreed to adjourn but to try to reconvene for another meeting in about a month, at which time we would allocate meeting time to further discuss INRIA's work and testbeds in general.