

## FORMAL METHODS EUROPE

Minutes of 14th Meeting held at LRI-CNRS Universite de Paris-Sud, on 17 November 1995

Present :  
Angela Alapide  
Göran Anger  
Dominique Bolignano  
Andrew Butterfield  
Manfred Broy  
Eric Delalonde  
Tim Denvir  
Gottfried Egger  
John Fitzgerald  
Josep M. Garrell  
Marie-Claude Gaudel  
~~Hans-Martin Höreher~~  
Peter Larsen  
Peter Lucas  
Richard Messnarz  
Alejandro Moya  
John Nicholls  
Jan Storbak Pedersen  
Nico Plat  
Kees Pronk  
Wolfgang Reisig  
Jim Woodcock

Peter Lucas thanked Marie-Claude Gaudel for kindly hosting the meeting.

### 1. Minutes of 12th meeting

These were accepted subject to two corrections: the title of the presentation given by Soren Prehn should be "Using Formal Methods in Domain Analysis" (the presentation material is attached to these minutes) and in section 9 "FME'97" should read "FME'96".

### 2. Matters arising

Action 10/1: Arrange for change of signatories for the FME bank account. ~~This is in hand and will be completed shortly.~~ Done KP

Action 10/5: Provide a periodic report on FME to the Commission. Peter Lucas, Kees Pronk and Tim Denvir will put this in hand soon. Continues PL, TD, KP

Action 12/9. More suggestions and leads have been received for a Finnish representative and Peter Lucas agreed to explore these further. Continues: PL

Action 13/1. Form a working group to take forward ideas on moving to financial independence from EC. Put item on next agenda. Done: GA, PL

Action 13/2. Extend electronic mailing list to whole committee. This is done and the committee are encouraged to use the list. Done JF

Action 13/3. Write to those who haven't attended last four meetings (TD to supply list). Continues PL, TD

Action 13/4. Arrange to start meetings earlier, with technical presentations at start and end. Done PL

Action 13/5. Contact newsletter editors conveying wish to strengthen links. Done TD

Action 13/6. Contact IEEE FM planning group asking again if they are interested in links with FME. No responses have been received and it was agreed to withdraw this action. Withdrawn PL

Action 13/7. Ask Marie-Claude Gaudel if the next FME committee meeting can be held at Orsay following the PC meeting. Done PL

3. **Secretary**

John Fitzgerald has been nominated and seconded as a successor to Tim Denvir as secretary. It was agreed that he would take over duties after FME'96.

4. **FME'96**

Marie-Claude Gaudel reported that 103 papers had been received and that the quality looked very promising. Some papers had arrived too late to be processed and these might be presented in a poster session. 19 proposals for tutorials and 12 proposals for tool demonstrations had been received. Three invited speakers have been secured and they all appeared to be willing to write papers for the proceedings. ~~Summary~~ papers are attached.

*for information  
Some Notesh*

Satellite meetings for "Special Interest Groups" are encouraged and facilities will be available for them: the Z standards panel has already arranged to meet during the symposium and others have reserved places.

5. **FME'97**

Richard Messnarz presented details of the proposed organisation of the FME'97 symposium. We shall continue the pattern of a 2-day tutorial followed by a 3-day conference. The tutorial section should consist of 8 tutorials conducted as two parallel half-day sessions. The conference can have parallel sessions in a large and a small conference room. Rooms and equipment are available free of charge; lunches will have to be paid for. Details of his presentation are attached.

Peter Lucas has invited Manfred Broy to be PC chair of FME'97. Manfred Broy *will* respond by the end of the year (1995). *provided to*

6. **Best Practice and other Proposals**

The three prime contractors, Peter Larsen, Tim Denvir and Eric Delalonde, gave brief verbal accounts of the progress of the proposals, FMEIndSem, FMEInfRes and FMEGuides respectively. The technical annexes of FMEInfRes and FMEGuides are being negotiated with a view to a start date of 1 January and the negotiations for FMEIndSem will begin in January with a view to a project start date of 1 April.

Goran Anger reported on INFORMAL, Integrating Formal Methods in Avionics Life-Cycle, a proposal involving 5 avionics companies from different countries.

Alejandro Moya suggested that ESPRIT 1.1 or BRITEURAM were possible programmes to which to submit proposals. BRITEURAM is more sectorially oriented.

7. **FME Activities and Future Directions**

Wolfgang Reisig gave details of an Advanced Course on Petri Nets, October 7-18 1996, at Dagstuhl Castle, Germany which he is organising for the International Petri Net Steering Committee which is chaired by Prof. Rozenberg, Leiden University. We agreed that an FME affiliation could be given to this, with use of the mailing list etc. by further arrangement.

The future directions of FME were discussed. It was agreed that FME should eventually become financially independent of the EC. The running costs are approximately 50 Kecu per year. Peter Lucas suggested that we should concentrate more on defining our function than on how to obtain funds. the conferences are an important activity; Tim Denvir suggested that FME might establish a register of consultants and suppliers of formal methods expertise. No specific decisions were taken.

8. **Membership**

It was decided that the current situation where a committee and a mailing list exists should continue. This may be reviewed again at the end of the ESSI projects.

9. **Next meetings**

The next meeting will be held during FME'97 in Oxford on the evening of Tuesday 19 March 1996, after the tutorial session and on the evening of the start of the conference.

Goran Anger kindly offered to host the subsequent meeting in Stockholm. It is therefore planned to be held there on June 28 1996.

## 10. Other business

Two interesting technical presentations were given during the meeting. \*\*\* gave a presentation on "Algebraic Specifications with Implicit State", and John Nicholls gave a presentation on "Who Are WE Talking to? Who is Listening?". We are most grateful to \*\*\* and John for their contributions.

Tim Denvir asked Alejandro Moya on what basis the hardware costs in the FMEInfRes proposals would be reimbursed. He agreed to find out. Action 14/1 AM

Kees Pronk gave notice of an International Symposium on Programming Languages and Systems originated from CWI Amsterdam. He agreed to be FME liaison.

Marie-Claude Gaudel announced the formation of a French national Formal Methods organisation. A paper is attached giving details of a colloquium which they are organising. We welcomed this initiative.

Tim Denvir  
secretary FME

23/11/95

## Summary of Actions

### Brought forward

Action 10/5: Provide a periodic report on FME to the Commission. Peter Lucas, Kees Pronk and Tim Denvir will put this in hand soon. PL, TD, KP

Action 12/9. More suggestions and leads were given for a Finnish representative and Peter Lucas agreed to explore these further. PL

Action 13/3. Write to those who haven't attended last four meetings (TD to supply list).

Continues PL, TD

### New Actions

Action 14/1. To find out on what basis the hardware costs in the FMEInfRes proposal will be funded. AM