



Formal Methods Europe
Minutes of the 49th meeting (AGM) (Revised)
Held at the BCS, London, UK
2 April 2009
www.fmeurope.org

Present at the meeting were:

- Bernhard Aichernig [TU Graz]
- Jos Baeten [TU Eindhoven]
- Eerke Boiten [Kent University]
- Jeremy Bryans [Newcastle University]
- John Cooke (present from agenda item 5) [Loughborough University]
- Lars-Henrik Eriksson (Secretary, from agenda item 8) [Uppsala University]
- John Fitzgerald (Chairman) [Newcastle University]
- Stefania Gnesi [ISTI]
- Peter Gorm Larsen [Aarhus University]
- Dino Mandrioli [Politecnico di Milano]
- Nico Plat (Secretary, up until agenda item 8) [West Consulting BV]
- Marcel Verhoef (Treasurer) [Chess BV]

Apologies had been received from: Kamel Barkaoui, Hrvoje Belani, Ana Cavalcanti, Joey Coleman, Jorge Cuellar, Alessandro Fantechi, Stefan Gruner, Niklas Holsti, Randolph Johnson, Cliff Jones, Tiziana Margaria, David von Oheimb, Jose Oliveira, Jan Storbank Pedersen, Kees Pronk, Jim Woodcock.

1 Welcome

John Fitzgerald welcomed the members present. He thanked Paul Boca for organising and hosting the meeting.

2 Agree upon agenda

The agenda was agreed upon.

3 Minutes of the meeting held in Pisa, Italy, on 10 October 2008

The minutes of the meeting were approved.

4 Action list

Action 45/10: John Fitzgerald to get feedback from FME's members on the "small projects" approach that has been followed so far

No response had been received on earlier e-mail messages by John. He invites members to put views on this issue forward. Action closed.

Action 48/1: Nico Plat to put "FME Awards" on the agenda for the 49th meeting.

Done, action closed.

Action 48/2: Nico Plat to sign the MoU with BCS/FACS.

Done, action closed.

Action 48/3: Marcel Verhoef to propose standard evaluation guidelines for FME Symposia

No progress, action continues.

Action 48/4: Stefania Gnesi to resubmit the CfO for FM'11 (by the end of 2008)
Done, action closed.

Action 48/5: Marcel Verhoef to analyse possibilities for reducing FME's risk in the current financial climate.
Done, action closed.

Action 48/6: John Fitzgerald to arrange appropriate attention for FME's 10th anniversary during the next FME meeting to be held in conjunction with a BCS/FACS Seminar
Obsolete, action closed.

Action 48/7: Stefania Gnesi to coordinate one of the invited speakers for FM'09 to be the FME 10th anniversary speaker
Done. Jeannette Wing (Carnegie Mellon University) will be the FME 10th anniversary speaker at FM'09. Action closed.

Action 48/8: John Fitzgerald to coordinate a special FME Anniversary issue of FACJ.
Done. This will be the same issue as the special issue that will appear after FM'09. Action closed.

Action 48/9: Bernhard Aichernig to publish outcomes of FME-sponsored projects on the web site
Two reports (out of four) have been put online. Action continues. Related to this, it was also decided to put material such as sponsorship overviews on the web site. Eerke Boiten volunteered to put a report on REFINE'08 (sponsored by FME) on the web site.

Action 49/1: Bernhard Aichernig to publish an overview of FME sponsorships on the web site.

Action 49/2: Eerke Boiten to provide a report on REFINE'08 and promotion for REFINE'09 to be published on the web site.

Action 48/10: Bernhard Aichernig to investigate the possibilities for hosting the tools repository at Minho University.
The tools repository will indeed be published at Minho University. Action closed.

Action 48/11: Bernhard Aichernig to put small project outcomes on the FME web site
Is the same as action 48/9, so can be removed.

Action 48/12: Marcel Verhoef to inform the ForTIA Board on the current views of FME on the existence of ForTIA
There had been very little response from the people involved with ForTIA, and the future of ForTIA was further discussed under agenda item 14. Action closed.

5 Financial report by the Treasurer regarding the period 1 January 2008 – 31 December 2008

Marcel Verhoef presented the financial report for 2008 (attached to the minutes). The meeting approved the report *nem con*.

6 Report by the Independent Financial Examiners regarding the period 1 January 2008 - 31 December 2008

The independent financial examiners (Jeremy Bryans and Jos Baeten) had individually checked the FME accounts and found no irregularities. The meeting discharged the Treasurer from his responsibilities during this period. John thanked the Treasurer and the independent financial examiners for their work. Daniel Zimmerman had expressed interest in taking this role. The meeting approved his nomination *nem con*, subject to his agreement (received following the AGM). Jeremy Bryans (as this was his first term as independent financial examiner) was asked to serve again in 2009, and he agreed to do so.

7 Report by the Board regarding the period 1 January 2008 - 31 December 2008

Nico Plat presented the annual report of activities in 2008 (attached to the minutes). The meeting approved the report *nem con*.

8 Board member election

In accordance with Article 10.5 of the Statutes, Nico Plat (Secretary) stepped down as a member of the Board, having served as Secretary of the Association since its foundation and having also served on the predecessor groups VDM Europe and FME as an expert panel of the EU. Lars-Henrik Eriksson had indicated his willingness to take over the position of Secretary. There were no other candidates to take this position. Therefore Lars-Henrik was elected unopposed.

9 Budget by the Treasurer for 2009

Marcel Verhoef presented the budget for 2009 (attached to the minutes). He added that we now have a binding contract with the organisers of FM'09. The larger than usual amount to be given as grants was noted. The meeting approved the budget.

10 Plans by the Board regarding the period 1 January 2009 - 31 December 2009.

John Fitzgerald presented the plans by the Board for 2009 (attached to the minutes). The meeting approved the plans.

11 Status reports on FM'09 and FM'11

Jos Baeten, general chair of FM'09, reported on the current state of planning. (Slides attached to the minutes.) Stefania Gnesi reported that four proposals for FM'11, all serious, had been received. An important question is if we want to go outside Europe. Discussions are going on between the board and the proposers.

12 Sponsorships by FME

At the 48th meeting, FME's support of the SCORE competition at ICSE'09 was discussed. It was decided to award the student team making the best use of formal methods with travel costs up to 2.500 Euro for travel to ICSE in Vancouver. Dino Mandrioli and Nico Plat reports that two teams used formal methods – one had good enough quality to be selected. Marcel Verhoef suggest that FME should also award small grants this year.

Action 49/3: Dino Mandrioli to provide material about SCORE for the FME web site.

13 Report on small projects

Marcel Verhoef presented the status of the current small projects:

- Joe Kiniry & Dan Zimmerman (“JML Reloaded”). Unclear if the 2008 “specathon” has taken place.
- Stefan Gruner. The project is ongoing and a prototype has been developed for editing and translating annotated use-case diagrams to Prolog Facts for consistency checks. The intermediate results have been reported in two publications.
- Peter Gorm Larsen et al. (“Tools Repository”). Completed. The results will be hosted by the University of Minho.
- Angelo Morzenti (“Zot”). Completed and reported on the web site.

Action 49/4: Marcel Verhoef to check on the progress of the small project by Kiniry&Zimmerman.

Action 49/5: Bernhard Aichernig to get a date from Minho when the Tools Repository will be online.

14 ForTIA

No activity from ForTIA has been reported to the board. I-Day continues to be the main function of

the subgroup but this is not in practise organised through the group but directly by the symposium organisers and the FME board. The Chairman proposed that FME should cease to support ForTIA as a subgroup of the association. It was noted that ForTIA was a joint undertaking with Co-LogNet, which it is believed no longer exists. Marcel Verhoef suggested that a close should be announced and should proceed if no protests are received within a specified time. The AGM resolved to "wind down" ForTIA as subgroup of FME. Material of lasting value on the ForTIA web site will be considered for transfer to the FME web site.

Action 49/6: Lars-Henrik Eriksson and Marcel Verhoef to wind down ForTIA.

Action 49/7: Marcel Verhoef and Bernhard Aichernig to determine what material to transfer from the ForTIA web site to the FME web site and to carry out the transfer.

15 FME education subgroup

The subgroup has reported that they are organising an event at FM'09.

16 FME web site/WiKi/Electronic publications

Bernhard Aichernig presented the new FME web site based on the Wordpress blog software. The new web site did not cost FME anything.

17 FME awards

The Chairman proposed that the proposals put to previous meetings regarding the establishment of two kinds of FME awards should be taken forward with the consent of an AGM. In the proposal, it is envisaged that the Association might make an award at the rate of one every 18 months to 2 years in recognition of outstanding and lasting contribution to Formal Methods and to their application. In addition to a token of the award, the recipient would be invited to give a very high-profile lecture, normally at the Symposium. It is also envisaged that the association might award Fellowships to FME members in recognition of the distinguished service to the association. The Fellowship might entitle the recipient to free participation in future symposia. The meeting endorsed the proposal and the Chairman was invited to begin to put together committees for both awards and fellowships.

Action 49/8: John Fitzgerald to report on the progress of establishing FME awards.

18 Date and place of next meeting

FME's next meeting will be in Eindhoven, the Netherlands on November, 5 (during FM'09).

19 Other Business

There was no other business.

Summary of open actions

Action 48/3: Marcel Verhoef to propose standard evaluation guidelines for FME Symposia.

Action 48/9: Bernhard Aichernig to publish outcomes of FME-sponsored projects on the web site.

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