Minutes of IBPSA-USA Emerging Simulation Technology Research Subcommittee

Time: 11am - 12pm EST 3/6/2015

Participants:
Nathaniel Jones (MIT) (chair)
David Bosworth (BUILDlab)
Michael Georgescu (UCSB)
Scot Halverson (LANL)
Jibonananda Sanyal (ORNL)
Michael Wetter (LBNL)
Sen Huang (Miami)

Absent:
Nicholas Long (NREL)
Wangda Zuo (Miami)

Location: GoToMeeting

Notes:

News
The IBPSA-USA Research Committee was announced at the 2015 ASHRAE Winter Conference in Chicago, Jan. 24-28, and is now listed on the IBPSA-USA website (http://www.ibpsa.us/committees). The content of the website is still weak, and the subcommittee is not mentioned. Altering the website to acknowledge the subcommittee's existence would be helpful for establishing and publicizing the subcommittee.

Functions of the Subcommittee
A poll of the subcommittee members conducted in January showed that the subcommittee's highest priorities are developing ties with firms, governments, and funding organizations, developing road maps or white papers, and organizing conference sessions.

Outreach
It is currently too early to develop ties to other organizations as the subcommittee has not established its credibility yet, and its mission statement is not specific enough to attract non-research groups. A proposed solution is to begin to develop materials that promote the work of the subcommittee and of research in this area. This material could include:

- Compilations of case studies
- Newsletter
- Online courses, similar to the 2015 ASHRAE Spring Online Course Series or using OpenCourseWare
- YouTube videos

The purpose of outreach should be to create awareness, rather than to teach practitioners how to use simulation tools. However, each form of outreach should include references to resources for further education.

Conferences
Conferences offer an opportunity to find interested people through submissions or attendance. These people could later be a resource for the subcommittee. The subcommittee should limit itself to building simulation-related conferences initially, but eventually might also organize building tracks within the conferences of other fields, such as sensors, machine learning, data analytics and visualization, or big data. Wangda Zuo and Jibonananda Sanyal both expressed interest in organizing conference sessions. Some upcoming possibilities are:

- ASHRAE 2016 Annual Conference, St. Louis, Jun. 25-29
- ASHRAE Energy Modeling Conference, Atlanta, Sept 30-Oct 2, 2015 (http://ashraem.confex.com/ashraem/emc15/cfp.cgi)
- IBPSA 2015, December 7 - 9, 2015 (http://bs2015.in/)
- SimAUD (http://www.simaud.org/)
- BuildSys (http://www.buildsys.org/2014/)

Actions:

- Follow up with projects presented at previous conferences that might serve as case studies.
- Nathaniel will circulate a Google doc to generate a list of individuals, projects, and organizations to reach out to.

Next meeting:
To be determined by poll.