

Minutes of ARISS International Monthly Meeting

Go To Meeting/Teleconference

May 18, 2021 – 1100 UTC

Participants:

Oliver Amend
Frank Bauer
Gaston Bertels
Armand Budzianowski
Shizuo Endo
John Kludt
Chet Latawiec
David Jordan
Glenn MacDonell
Ciaran Morgan
Martha Muir
Micol Ivanic
Lou McFadin
Eric Oosterbaan
Jan Poppeliers
Kenneth Ransom
Sergey Samburov
Graham Shirville
Dave Taylor
Rosalie White
Satoshi Yasuda

Interpreter: Alexandre Khalimov

Unable to attend:

Fabio Azzarello
Kerry Banke
Jean-Pierre Courjaud
Darin Cowan
Emanuele D'Andria
Francesco De Paolis
Martin Diggins
Stefan Dombrowski
Gianpietro Ferrario
Ana Guzman
Bruce Hunter
Bertus Husken
Tony Hutchinson
Peter Kofler
Keigo Komuro
Ken Nichols
Gordon Scannell
Mark Steiner

Meeting Agenda

Welcome—Frank Bauer, KA3HDO

Frank opened the meeting by congratulating members of the ARISS-I team for keeping the program going and growing despite the COVID pandemic. Some areas of the world are getting better with their COVID numbers but unfortunately, some areas are still getting worse. Because of this, the ARISS-I officers have decided to extend the waiver policy until December 31, 2021. The waiver policy is required for any organization requesting a direct or traditional telebridge contact. Those requesting a Multipoint Telebridge contact do not need to submit a waiver request. The policy could be cancelled at any moment if conditions improve. It is important to keep students, hams, school faculty members and the public safe from the virus.

1. Minutes

Martha had sent the Minutes of the April 2021 meeting to the attendees last week to read over. Glenn MacDonell made a motion to accept the Minutes. Gaston Bertels seconded that motion which was then approved. The Minutes are to be sent to Carol Jackson to be posted on the ARISS-I website.

2 Slow Scan TV

Frank welcomed Sergey back from Russia's long holiday. Sergey provided a status of the latest Slow Scan TV downlink event. Sergey began by thanking folks for sending him some images for the program, including one of Yuri Gagarin's first flight. Sergey said he received 6 images from Armand and is requesting that folks send him three more images to add to the three that will be sent by the Russian Space Agency. Sergey thanked Armand for sending in his images. A crew is coming up to the ISS in early June so there is no time to upload the images now; hopefully this will be done in mid-June.

Oliver asked Sergey when he would like to have the images. Sergey replied that he'd like them by the end of May or early June. Frank asked that the images be sent to the ARISS-I officers and to John Kludt as well as to Sergey.

Sergey explained that a new SSTV computer adaptor is being developed that would allow for the transmission of future images. There will be a new computer going up by the end of the year that will require this new adaptor and new software to support SSTV image transmissions. Lou McFadin requested Sergey to provide an updated sketch of the on-board units' interconnections between the computer and radio system to support SSTV in the Russian segment.

3. Ear to Ear Meeting 2021

Oliver Amend said that the Ear to Ear meeting 2021 will run from Tuesday, June 22 to Friday, June 25. On Tuesday, Frank will present an overview of the current status of ARISS and future initiatives. There will be an opportunity to ask questions resulting from the submitted Regional and Committee reports. Kenneth will provide a forecast of crew member participation. And Sergey will talk about crew training. Wednesday is dedicated to education and hardware development. Thursday will be focused on Operations, including the changes that have been made in response to COVID. Friday is the wrap up day where we will review actions and, if necessary, conduct voting and talk about options for the annual meeting in 2022 when we will hopefully meet in person. Oliver also requests that attendees send him ideas for experiments involving the new IORS (radio system) and SSTV.

Regarding reports, ARISS delegates and team leads shall provide their reports by June 13, one week before the start of the meeting. They should be sent to Frank, Oliver, and Martha. Frank thanked Shizou Endo for already sending in his regional report. Frank will send out the link to a dropbox area where documents for the meeting will be located

Ad Hoc:Gateway and ARTEMIS

Frank said that the international space agencies are working to develop numerous human spaceflight and robotic missions to the moon. For NASA to improve efficiencies, it is combining some of the lunar human spaceflight initiatives together, through common meetings and comment processes and requirements for engineering and safety. Specifically, Artemis (including Orion and Space Launch System (SLS), and Exploration Ground System), Lunar Gateway, and the Human Landing System (HLS) are now being discussed together in a monthly meeting, with common safety and engineering requirements being addressed. For Gateway, the Power and Propulsion Element (PPE) and HALO will be launched together. Launch is currently November 2024. The Human Landing System will be a commercially developed system. NASA had intended to select two commercial vendors to develop but only selected one. This resulted in a protest that will probably further delay Artemis humans on the moon.

No news on the Artemis 2 proposal except to say that it is still being considered by NASA.

Frank asked delegates from each region reach out to their space agencies to discuss getting our AREx payload onboard Gateway. If ARISS can get endorsement from multiple space agencies on our AREx initiative, we stand a much greater chance of selection.

Future of ISS

Gaston asked about possible decommissioning of the ISS. Frank replied that there is an increase in commercialization of the ISS these days including commercial cargo and commercial crew. Axiom is building commercial modules for the ISS. ISS National Labs is sponsoring educational items for the ISS. All of these point towards keeping the ISS going until at least 2030. Oliver added there are plans to use the Bartolomeo platform until at least 2030, too.

Glenn asked about putting something on a lander. Frank said that currently, commercial landers only last 1 lunar daylight period (14 Earth days). Developing a system by volunteers that will only last 14 days is not currently practical but future capabilities of these landers is expanding to support multiple lunar days.

SSTV Survey Information

Armand requested via chat inputs about requested survey information for the upcoming SSTV award participants.

Frank concluded the meeting by saying that the ARISS-I group is an amazing group of volunteers with a great breadth and depth across the world. "Thank you for all you do."

The next ARISS-I meeting will be June 15, just one week before the 2021 Ear to Ear meeting. Committee and regional reports are due two days before the next ARISS-I meeting (June 13).

Respectfully submitted by Martha Muir.