

FORWARD

Speaking for the San Diego MTT Steering Committee, I hope you will find the 1977 International Microwave Symposium to be personally rewarding, one that you will remember for a long time.

It seems reasonable that each Symposium should attempt to be innovative so as to improve the general quality of these meetings. We have made several attempts. I would like to list several and make comments on a few.

1. Papers sent to reviewers without author identification.
2. Four continuous simultaneous sessions.
3. Four pages allowed for digest authors (instead of the usual three).
4. No planned night sessions.
5. Professionally managed exhibits.
6. NO SMOKING in meeting rooms.

Sending papers to reviewers without author identification was an attempt, by our local Technical Program Committee, to try to give new authors a chance to be recognized. A reviewer is influenced, by some extent, by the reputation of the author. This was an attempt to remove that particular influence.

The idea, originated and implemented by Gerry Schaffner, was a very good one. I am sorry to report that it did not work out as well as we had hoped. Several papers were accepted on the basis of reputation. About 100 papers were rejected, some of these might not have been. My sincerest appologies to these authors. I hope future committees will give this idea another try, perhaps learning from our mistakes.

NO SMOKING IN MEETING ROOMS is a restriction long overdue at our Symposia. In San Diego there is actually a city ordinance (S.D. 11459, Section C, #45.103) which prohibits smoking in public and private meeting rooms. Because much of our available meeting space is being taken up by exhibits, we are going to be a bit crowded. Please feel free to smoke all you like outside of the meeting area (exhibit rooms O.K.). Your cooperation is needed and will be appreciated.

One of the advantages of being Conference Chairman is having the opportunity to choose (with the Steering Committee's approval) the Banquet Speaker. In years to come you may forget much of what goes on at these Technical Sessions, but those of you who come to the Banquet with an open mind will not forget Hal Puthoff's presentation on the psychic research at SRI. I have read the IEEE paper and the book by Puthoff and Targ and have found their research to be both intellectually stimulating and mind boggling!

I sincerely hope that our rather unconventional approach to our yearly gathering will meet with the approval of most of you.



Dave Rubin
Chairman