Minutes of the RTA 2005 Business Meeting

April 19 – 21, Nara, Japan

recorded by Delia Kesner

RTA 2005 Steering Chair:	Femke van Raamsdonk (represented by Vincent van Oostrom)
RTA 2005 Program Chair:	Jürgen Giesl
RTA 2005 Conference Chair:	Hitoshi Ohsaki

The business meeting of RTA was held on Tuesday, April 19, 18:20.

1 Report of the 2005 Program Chair (*Jürgen Giesl*)

The program committee of RTA 2005 had 16 members and covered all areas related to RTA and most of the countries active in rewriting. There was a mixture of established and young researchers.

The call for papers was already distributed at RTA 2004. There were posters and call for participation sent by email by Hitoshi Ohsaki. An active publicity was carried by the former and current publicity chairs Femke van Raamsdonk and Ralf Treinen.

The submission process had two stages:

- The submission of abstracts: deadline November 12, 2004, 88 abstracts were submitted.
- The submission of papers: deadline November 19, 2004 (without extension), 79 papers were submitted (75 regular, 4 system descriptions)

As the following table shows, this conference received the highest number of submissions since 1996 and the highest number of participants since ever.

RTA	submissions	accepted	participants	location
2005	79	31	131	Nara
2004	43	19	77	Aachen
2003	61	32	98	Valencia
2002	49	26	70	Copenhagen
2001	55	25	80	Utrecht
2000	44	18	57	Norwich
1999	53	27	97	Trento
1998	61	25	107	Tsukuba
1997	54	23	63	Sitges
1996	84	28	92	New Brunswick
1995	87	27	110	Kaiserslauten
1993	91	29	110	Montreal
1991	87	35	100	Como
1989	84	34	110	Chapel Hill
1987	70	22	?	Bordeaux

There were at least three reviews for each paper. The submissions were refereed during 7 weeks, 112 external referees contributed to this stage. There was a one week electronic program committee discussion for the final decision. The reviewing process and the PC discussion was managed using Andrei Voronkov's *EasyChair* system.

finally, 31 (29 regular papers and 2 system descriptions) of 79 submissions were accepted for publication in RTA 2005.

The authors of submitted and accepted papers came from the following countries:

Country	Accepted	Submitted
France	10	23.1
USA	5.6	11.7
Japan	4	9
Spain	2.7	6.5
United Kingdom	2.7	4.7
The Netherlands	1.7	3.8
Germany	1.3	2.3
Austria	1	1
Poland	1	1
Israel	0.5	0.8
Denmark	0.5	0.5
China	0	4
Korea	0	4
Taiwan	0	1.3
Australia	0	1
Brazil	0	1
Russia	0	1
Switzerland	0	1
Sweden	0	1
Italy	0	0.3
Total	31	79

The *best paper award* (100000 YEN) was attributed to *Extending the Explicit Substitution Paradigm* by Delia Kesner and Stéphane Lengrand.

The *Student Travel Grants* were attributed to *$\lambda\mu$-Calculus and Duality: Call-by-Name and Call-by-Value* by Jérôme Rocheteau and to *Termination of Single-Threaded One-Rule Semi-Thue Systems* by Mojciech Moczydlowski.

There were three invited talks of RTA 2005:

- *Confluent Term Rewriting Systems* by Yoshihito Toyama.
- *Call-by-Value is Dual to Call-by-Name* by Philip Wadler.
- *A Tutorial Example of the Semantic Approach to Foundational Proof-Carrying Code* (joint with TLCA) by Amy Felty.

The anniversary Session on 20 years of RTA "The History and Future of Rewriting" had three invited talks

- *Before RTA: Early Days in Rewriting Research* by Gérard Huet.
- *Twenty Years Later* by Jean-Pierre Jouannaud.
- *Open. Closed. Open* by Nachum Dershowitz.

Jürgen Giesl has concluded his report by thanking all the people involved in RTA 05.

2 Report by the 2005 Conference Chair (*Hitoshi Ohsaki*)

Since 2003 RTA has been part of the *Federated Conference on Rewriting, Deduction, and Programming* (RDP). The following conferences and workshops were part of RDP 2005:

- 16th International Conference on Rewriting Techniques and Applications (RTA)
- 7th International Conference Typed Lambda Calculi and Applications (TLCA)
- Annual Meeting of the IFIP Working Group 1.6 on Term Rewriting
- 6th International Workshop on Rule-Based Programming (RULE)
- 5th International Workshop on Reduction Strategies in Rewriting and Programming (WRS)
- 19th International Workshop on Unification (UNIF)

The participants of RTA (including invited speakers) came from the following countries:

Country	Participants
Japan	58
France	34
United Kingdom	7
USA	7
Spain	5
Germany	5
The Netherlands	4
Austria	3
Italy	2
Poland	2
Denmark	1
Israel	1
Taiwan	1
Canada	1
Total	131

Participation of RDP can be summarized as follows:

- Participants to both RTA and TLCA : 68
- Participants to RTA and not to TLCA : 62
- Participants to TLCA and not to RTA : 40
- Participants to workshops only: 5

This gives a total of 175 participants.

The actual financial status of RTA'05 can be summarized as follows:

	YEN	EUR
Incomings:		
Registration fees	3500000	25000
Grant	3700000	26400
Expenses:		
Conference Room	1400000	10000
Invited Speakers and grants for students	1800000	12800
Workshop organization	400000	2900
Social events and lunches	2400000	17100
Publicity	600000	4300
Others	600000	4300

Hitoshi Ohsaki tells that he has received more than 2200 mails concerning the RDP organization. He proposes for the future to split the organization work, he suggests in particular that some issues can be taken in charge by the steering committee. He also suggests to motivate workshop organizers to participate more in organization issues.

3 Proposal of New Steering Committee Members

Femke van Raamsdonk is leaving the steering committee since she has been on the committee for three consecutive years. Vincent van Oostrom proposes to thank her for her active participation during these years as publicity chair and steering committee chair.

One candidate has been nominated:

- *Ashish Tiwari* (SRI, USA)

The statement of the candidate is distributed to the assembly later together with the ballot.

4 Proposal for the 2007 Program Committee Chair

The only candidate for the position of the 2007 program chair is *Franz Baader* (Technische Universität Dresden, Germany).

5 Proposal for the 2007 Conference Place

There are three different proposals to co-organise RTA 2007 together with TLCA 2007.

- Paris. The proposal for RTA is presented by Ralf Treinen (LSV, Cachan, France) and Xavier Urbain (Cnam Évry, France). The TLCA co-organisers are Antonio Bucciarelli, Vincent Padovani and Juliusz Chroboczek (PPS, Paris 7, France)
- Nijmegen. The proposal for RTA is presented by Hans Zantema (Technical University Eindhoven, The Netherlands). The TLCA co-organiser is Herman Geuvers (Nijmegen University, The Netherlands)
- Novi Sad. The proposal for RTA is presented by Pawel Urzyczyn (Warsaw University, Polland) in representation of Siliva Ghilezan (University of Novi Sad, Serbia).

Frank Pfenning suggests to the future organization to avoid superposition of sessions as much as possible.

6 Progress Report of the 2006 Program Chair (*Frank Pfenning*)

RTA 2006 will be organized as part of FLoC 2006 in August (Seattle, USA).

The submission date will be middle march.

Frank Pfenning raises the problem that PC members cannot submit papers to the conference. H. Comon and N. Dershowitz participate in the discussion and argue against allowing submissions by PC members.

7 Progress Report of the 2006 Conference Chair (*Ashish Tiwari*)

In 2006, RTA is organized as part of the Federated Logic Conference (FLoC), collocated with LICS, CAV, ICLP, SAT, and IJCAR, and several affiliated workshops. The conference date will be August 12–15, 2006. It will take place in the Sheraton Hotel, Seattle, USA.

8 Voting

The vote is conducted by secret ballot. There were 45 votes for each item.

The result of the vote for the 2007 conference place

Paris	27
Nijmegen	7
Novi Sad	6
Blank	5

Hence, Paris is elected as 2007 conference place.

The result of the vote for allowing PC members to submit papers is

	Yes	No	Blank
Allowing PC members	13	25	7

Hence, no change is done on RTA bylaws and PC members are not allowed to submit papers.

The result of the vote for the new steering committee members is

	Yes	No	Blank
Ashish Tiwari	37	0	8

Hence, Ashish Tiwari is elected as new member of the steering committee.

The result of the vote for the 2007 PC Chair is

	Yes	No	Blank
Franz Baader	43	0	2

Hence, Franz Baader is elected as 2007 Program Committee chair.

9 Proposals and Discussions

Hubert Comon suggests to have RTA 2007 in June rather than in April. The reason is that this will give more time for writing papers since RTA 2006 will be in August, which is unusally late in the year.

Many people raise the problem of money management of RTA. The idea will be to be able to keep leftover money from one year to another one. A bank account will be extremely useful. The Steering Committee will investigate what are the options.