Working Group on Multi Agent Systems (MAS)
Intelligent Systems Subcommittee

2015 IEEE PES General Meeting
Monday, July 27, 2015, 11:00-12:00
Sheraton Denver Downtown Hotel, Denver, CO, USA
Room: Vail
Chair: Nikos Hatziargyriou

Minutes:
1) Activities:
   a. **Tutorial:** Steve Widergren, Leigh Tesfatsion and Koen Kok proposed a tutorial for this year's general meeting, which was accepted. The tutorial is called: "Intelligent Systems Support for Transactive Energy Systems: The Fundamentals", and was held on Sunday 26th July, the day before this WG meeting. There were 20+ people and the reactions were very positive.
   b. **Panel at ISGT:** Koen Kok organized a panel session on transactive energy at ISGT Europe 2014. The session covered two panel slots in the conference program, one more academically oriented and the other more industrially.
   c. **Panel at the GM:** The panel proposed by the WG is not in the 2015 PES GM program, nobody knows exactly why.

2) **Proposed Panel Session for PES GM 2016:**
   Tentative Title: "Challenges and opportunities in implementing MAS". Ryan May, Steven McArthur and Nikos will lead and prepare an abstract.

3) **Focus:**
   a. **Scope:** There was a discussion about the scope of the WG. Multi-agent Technology as a term is used less frequent nowadays. Distributed intelligence is an upcoming term which also encompasses MAS.
   Steve McArthur mentions that the FIPA (Foundation for Physical Intelligent Agents, an IEEE Computer Society standards organization) has not been successful in creating a MAS standard that is used by industry and R&D organizations. One of the architects of FIPA told him he does not use the FIPA specifications anymore because it isn't usable in practice. Steve mentioned further he sees Self Organizing Systems (SOS) coming up as a new paradigm and recommends we look into that.
   b. **Tools:** There is a discussion on design and development tools to use. The WG could play a role in getting feedback of the community and create an overview of available tools and their advantages and drawbacks.
   c. **Tutorial:** another tutorial could be proposed oriented towards agent modeling.
   d. **Webinars:** Organization of webinars could be an activity of the WG. Either own webinars or as part of the IEEE webinar program. A monthly webinar is considered to be too frequent.
4) **WG Chairmanship:** Nikos is chairing the WG meetings ad-interim at this moment after Dave Cartes stopped his chairmanship for health reasons. Nikos indicates that he will lead the WG in

this manner for one more year at max.
Koen suggests having a group of people involved in the leadership of the WG.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 PM.

Minutes written by Koen Kok, based on notes by Zita Vale and himself.

Postscript:
After the meeting a group of WG members had a discussion in the hallway. Steve McArthur suggested that Koen Kok would fill in the chair position of the WG. After consulting with some other WG members and Nikos, Koen decided to be a candidate. His candidacy was discussed in the IS subcommittee meeting and accepted by the subcommittee.