

MRI DC Meeting 23.8.2023 Donor's Lounge, Aalto, Espoo

18:40 – 19:45

Attendees:

Antti Pietiläinen (Chairman)
Petri Kärhä (Secretary)
Jeremias Seppä
Hannu Talvitie
Markku Vainio
Meelis Sildoja
Mikko Merimaa
Tuomas Hieta
Janne Askola
Farshid Manoocheri
Priit Jaanson
Tomi Pulli
Alexander Kokka
Hans Baumgartner
Pasi Toivanen
Maksim Shpak
Erkki Ikonen

Opening

The evening started with a lab tour in the new electronics workshop facilities in Maarintie 8, called "Vilhon Paja." Studies at ELEC nowadays contain quite a lot of practical work -based courses which are carried out in these facilities. The official meeting was held with a salad dinner in the Donor's lounge. After the meeting, there was sauna.

Round the table discussion

Jeremias Seppä works at VTT MIKES in the length group doing spectroscopy. He has developed technology Stealth light, short range illumination, which is being sold through VTT. Has a Tesla, a cat, children, and the same wife as before.

Hannu Talvitie has had no changes in family, three kids and a wife. Two kids study at Aalto, daughter already graduated, son working 3rd summer at MRI. Last year had 6 months sabbatical leave. Did some bicycling to north. Heads technology strategy at Vaisala since Nov 2022.

Markku Vainio works at HY physical chemistry as a professor, and partly still in Tampere University. Projects with lasers, optics, and spectroscopy.

Meelis Sildoja lives in Estonia and works for two places, Metroserf and the Institute of Chemical Physics and Biophysics. Work includes two-photon absorption and single photon measurements. Metroserf will in future host a new unit, division of applied research, similar to VTT. This generated interesting discussion, as the situation is quite reverse to Finland, where MIKES is within VTT, not vice versa.

Mikko Merimaa works as general secretary of the Euramet. He has his office in Germany but mainly works in Espoo. Lobbying new program of metrology taking place after the Metrology Partnership Program.

Tuomas Hieta works for Gasera for 6,5 years. Does half technology and half financing. Has two kids and the same wife. Works also in Markku's lab in HY.

Janne Askola works with Vaisala Weather and Environment. Spent half a year at parental leave. Work mostly related with ultrasonic measurements techniques.

Farshid Manoocheri works as a Staff Scientist at Aalto MRI. Farshid's daughter just started school. New students and new projects. Projects include e.g. liquid filters. Extending scope to appearance measurements.

Priit Jaanson spent some time on paternity leave. Cofounded a start-up making smart canes for the blind. In prototype phase applying funding. Has also a real job at K3 group, a new company. Out-Sight closed their operations in Finland. K3 is kind of continuation of that.

Tomi Pulli works as senior optical engineer in Microsoft virtual reality team. Also works with Hehkulab.

Alexander Kokka works at VTT with multispectral cameras. Also with Hehkulab. Hehkulab is gradually catching wind. Got married last month.

Hans Baumgartner works for his own company Hasseb Inc. making software for ABB. Still building a garage for a summer house plot. Dreams of buying a floating grass cutter.

Pasi Toivanen works for Thermo-Fischer. There is no hardware R&D in Vantaa anymore. Pasi looks after R&D at other sites. Has three kids, oldest starting at Aalto.

Maksim Shpak works with the Holo-lens project of Microsoft. His present fleet of cars includes Fiat, Lotus, Lexus, Land-Rover, and a new motorcycle. After the meeting, Maksim gave a demonstration of the Hololens technology.

Antti Pietiläinen works at Nokia, as a principal architect, between baseband and radio parts.

Petri Kärhä works with Mikes-Aalto and was recently nominated as a Principal University Lecturer. Spent half a year on sabbatical leave fixing his house (kitchen, toilet, and hallway) in spring – summer 2023. Has same old cars – A 1955 Packard and a Triumph Herald that move and a 1948 Oldsmobile that doesn't. His daughter studies an MSc at STFI in Sweden; his sons are studying in Tampere: Mechanical Engineering at the University, and Civil Engineering at the University of Applied Sciences.

Erkki Ikonen works with Aalto and VTT Mikes. MRI is now in department called DICE and next year joins EEA (Electronics, Electrical and Automation). This is the same group where we were to join in 2008, so it took 15 years. Erkki still works in Aalto until 2027 after which he retires. There is a starting professorship call to replace him. Joint professorship between VTT and Aalto. Members of the MRI DC club are encouraged to apply.

Next meeting

Place of the next meeting is planned to be Tytyri mineshaft of Kone.

Closing and conclusions

The meeting ended at around 19:45 and continued in Sauna.

Petri Kärhä
Secretary

Antti Pietiläinen
Chairman