2024 ASHRAE Region XIV Chapters Regional Conference (CRC)

BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES

Questions: If you have any questions, please contact Mahroo Eftekhari at m.m.eftekhari@lboro.ac.uk or +447510555056

Draft

Minutes CRC 2024

8th CHAPTER REGIONAL CONFERENCE BUSINESS MEETING

Hosted by ASHRAE UK Chapter

Date/Time: 21 st September 2024 / 09:00 – 18:00 (UK time) | Location: Wolfson College, Oxford, UK |

Contents

1. Call to Order / Opening Remarks 5
2. Appointment of meeting secretary 5
3. Introduction of VIP Guests 5
4. Roll Call 6
5. Agenda 8
6. Review and approval of 2023 region XIV business meeting minutes 8
7. Staff report 8
8. Student's society competition winners report 10
9. DRC report 10
10. Regional student winners 11
11. Society strategic plan update 12
12. Decarbonisation 12
13. RP fundraising 12
14. RVC Reports 12
15. Chapter reports 14
16. Call to Order 16
17. RMCR Report 16
18. Chapter Motions 16
19. Informational Items ..... **Error! Bookmark not defined.**
20. Adjournment ..... **Error! Bookmark not defined.**
21. CRC Evaluation 21

Agenda

SESSION #1: SATURDAY, 21 September (9:00 AM)

Meeting Location: The Business Meetings took place at the Buttery room.

1.	**CALL TO ORDER / REVIEW OF AGENDA**	9:00 AM	Mahroo	Introductory remarks and review of agenda
2.	**VALUE STATEMENT**		Mahroo	
3.	**APPOINTMENT OF MEETING SECRETARY**		Mahroo	Meeting Secretary: Tom Crook
4.	**INTRODUCTION OF VIP GUESTS**		Mahroo	Bill McQuade (President elect 2024-25) Sarah Maston (Treasurer, 2024-2025) Craig Wright (Director of Finance And Administration/CFO) Les Pereira (RP Chair) Tim Wentz (Presidential member, DL) Blake Ellis (DAL Director-at-Large) Giannis Kondylidis (SA Chair) Ginger Scoggins (presidential member, DL)
5.	**ROLL CALL**		Tom Crook	Regional Leaders, Delegates, Alternates, Guests
6.	**REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF 2023 REGION XIV BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES**		Mahroo	See attached minutes from 2023 Region X Business Meeting (meeting location: Ireland, Galway)
7.	**STAFF REPORT**			ASHRAE Staff Report
8.	**Student's society competition winners' report**		Tom Crook & Lawrence whom?	Students winning ASHRAE design competition will talk about their visits to Chicago
9.	**DRC Report**		Mahroo	DRC report by Mahroo
10.	**Regional Student winners**		Students	Student winners from Regional Competition are recognised
11.	**BREAK**			
12.	**SOCIETY STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE**		Andres	Andres will provide a status update for the Society Strategic Plan
13.	**RP fundraising**		Darren	HVAC PROFESSIONAL: GET ME OUT OF HERE
14.	**Decarbonisation**		Blake	Chapter decarbonization metrics

15.	**RVC Reports**		RVCs	Each RVC will have 5 minutes each to present their reports, highlighting successes and challenges from 2023/24, and plans for 2024/25: a. Dr. Ioan Silviu Dobosi : GA b. Conor Murray : CTTC c. Alkis Triantafyllopoulos : SA d. Prof Adelio Rodriques Gaspar : MP e. Les Pereira, Aleksandar Andjelkovic : RP f. Amr Suliman: YEA g. Nomination: Bata Blagojevic h. Finance: Liviu Drughean i. Historian: Lawrence Copestick j. DEI: Laura Sanches
16.	**CLOSE OF BUSINESS SESSION #1**		Mahroo	

END OF BUSINESS SESSION #1 – PROCEED TO PRESIDENT'S LUNCHEON DINING HALL

SESSION #2: Saturday, 21 September (14:30 pm)

17.	**Chapter Reports**		Delegates	Each Delegate will have 8 minutes to present their reports, highlighting successes and challenges from 2023/24, and plans for 2024/25: a. Dimitris Tseno (ASHRAE UK) b. Dr Polyvios Eleftheriou (Cyprus) c. Prof Andrei Burlacu (Danube) d. Marios Tsakiris (Hellenic) e. Gary O'sulivan (Ireland) f. David T Young (Israel) g. Samir Hernandez (Nordic) h. Carlos Farto (Portugal) i. Mar Serna (Spain) j. Gunther Berthold (Italy Section) k. Martin Dieryckx (Belgium section) l. Gunnar Grun (Germany Section) m. CRC 2025 (Portugal Chapter)
18.	**CLOSE OF BUSINESS SESSION #2**		Mahroo	

Saturday 21 September 9am

1. Call to Order / Opening Remarks

Chair Mahroo Eftekhari CRC called the meeting to order at 9:09

Mahroo recited the ASHRAE Code of Ethics and Diversity Commitments

"In ASHRAE meetings, we will act with honesty, fairness, courtesy, competence, inclusiveness and respect for others, which exemplify our core values of excellence, commitment, integrity, collaboration, volunteerism and diversity, and shall avoid all real or perceived conflicts of interest. Our culture is one of inclusiveness, acknowledging the inherent value and dignity of each individual. We celebrate diverse and inclusive communities, understanding that doing so fuels better, more creative and more thoughtful ideas, solutions and strategies for the Society and the communities our Society serves. We respect and welcome all."

Links to the applicable ASHRAE Manuals and Guidelines were shown on screen.

2. Appointment of meeting secretary

Mahroo appointed the Meeting Secretaries: Thomas Crook and Patrick Prendergast. No objections were raised.

3. Introduction of VIP Guests

Mahroo introduced the VIP Guests

Bill McQuade (President elect 2024-25)

Sarah Maston (Treasurer, 2024-2025)

Craig Wright (Director of Finance And Administration/CFO)

Les Pereira (RP Chair)

Tim Wentz (Presidential member, DL)

Blake Ellis (DAL Director-at-Large)

Ginger Scoggins (presidential member, DL)

4. Roll Call

Regional Leaders, Delegates, Alternates, Guests

Special Guests present

Name	Position	Attendance
Bill McQuade	(President elect 2024-25)	X
Sarah Maston	(Treasurer, 2024-2025)	X
Tim Wentz	(Presidential member, DL)	X
Blake Ellis	(DAL Director-at-Large)	X
Craig Wright	(Director Of Finance and Administration/CFO)	X
Les Pereira	(RP Chair)	X
Ginger Scoggins	(presidential member, DL)	X

Region XIV Officers

Name	Position	Attendance
Prof. Mahroo Eftekhari	Director and regional chair	X
Prof. Eduardo Maldonado	region members council representative RMCR	X
Andres J Sepulveda	assistant regional chair ARC	X
Prof- Gratiela Tarlea	region representative	X
Prof. Bratislav D Blagojevic	chair of nominating committee	X
Dr. Ioan Silviu Dobosi	RVC Government affair GA	X
Conor Murray	RVC chapter technology transfer committee CTTC	X
Alkis Triantafyllos - Andreas Triantafyllopoulos	RVC student activities SA	X
Joshua Vasudevan	RVC YEA	Absent
Prof Adelio Rodriques Gaspar	RVC membership promotion MP	X
Aleksandar Andjelkovic	RVC research promotion RP	X
Lawrence Copestick	Historian officer	X
Dimitris Tseno	communication chair	X
Laura Sanches	DEI officer	X
Prof. Liviu Drughean	Treasurer	X
Marko G Ignajatovic	Regional nominating committee alternate	X
Darren Wilkinson	chair of AI, innovation and technology	X
Dr. Amr Suliman	ASHRAE UK president	X

Chapter Delegates/Alternates

Name	Position	Attendance
Mr Enea Dimitris Tseno	ASHRAE UK: Delegate	x
Dr Ira Saxena	Alternate	x
Dr Polyvios Ch Eleftheriou	Cyprus: Delegate	X
Mr Constantinos Z Zeniou	Alternate	x
Prof Andrei Burlacu, PhD	Danube: Delegate	X
Mr Marius Balan, PhD	Alternate	X
Mr Marios Iakovos Tsakiris, Sr	Hellenic: Delegate	x
Mr Chrysostomos Bouras, Eng	Alternate	X
Mr Gary O'Sulivan	Ireland :Delegate	X
Ms Edith Eileen Blennerhassett	Alternate	x
Mr David T Young, IV	Israel: Delegate	X
Mr Jonny Malachi, Eng	Alternate	x

Mr Samir Pinheiro Hernandez	Nordic: Delegate	X
Mr Drew Turner	Alternate	X
Mr Carlos Gabriel Tavares Farto	Portugal: Delegate	X
Mrs Maria Odete de Almeida	Alternate	X
Miss Maria Der Mar Serna	Spain: Delegate	X
Ms Laura Sanchez	Alternate	X
Mr Gunther Berthold	Italy Section	X
Mr Martin Dierychx	Belgium Section	X
Mr Gunnar Grun	Germany Section	X

Other Guests

Name	**Position**	**Attendance**
Pau Garcia	distinguished guest, European commission officer	X
Francisco Calhindro	Portugal ASHRAE student branch	
Francisco Beltrian	Sweden ASHRAE Student branch	
Thomas Crook	ASHRAE UK	
????	Danube treasurer	
Chris Leslie	ASHRAE UK	
Alex Fong	ASHRAE UK	
John whom?	Hellenic	
Maria Endrio		
	Cyrus student	
	Cyprus student	
	Cyprus student	
	Hellenic	
Tamir	CTTC chair which Chapter?	
Pedros	…	
	Nordic chapter KTH	

5. Agenda

Mahroo Eftekhari reviews the agenda and asks members for any changes, additions, or comments. No requests were made.

6. Review and approval of 2023 region XIV business meeting minutes

Mahroo Eftekhari asks attendees to review the previous meeting minutes. See attached minutes from 2023 Region XIV Business Meeting (meeting location: Ireland, Galway).

Gary (Ireland) proposed a motion to accept the minutes from 2023 CRC. David (Israel) seconded the motion.

The minutes were unanimously approved.

7. Staff report

ASHRAE Staff Report commences with Grassroots and Bata, the chair of nominations. Training session online.

ASHRAE staff thanks the committee team for hosting this CRC: Mahroo, Dulhas, Amr Suliman, Dimitris, Siyuan, Tom. Mahroo recommends the Portugal chapter put a CRC committee together early due to the workload and planning required for a successful CRC.

Special guest Sarah Maston begins her presentation. Sarah asked who had attended the leadership conference in Indianapolis. Regional and Chapter level commercialism commitments have changed. Sarah lists the number of Distinguished lecturers in ASHRAE and recommends the chapters to reach out.

There are now 200 ASHRAE chapters worldwide. Marketing Central will support chapters in advertising their events, including providing templates for event promotion. Similarly, Sarah recommends chapters reach out to the ASHRAE media enquiries team before responding to members of the press.

Sarah introduces a revision of the strategic plan that will be in effect next summer and rolled out after Winter. She introduces the new DRCs and government affairs opportunities. The Decarbonisation challenge fund will continue under President Dennis Knight, run through the YEA.

She reminded the audience about the new Centre for Excellence in building decarbonisation, the new group payment option, and she invited Region XIV to send participants to the upcoming Chapter leadership academy and training.

Craig Wright, director of finance, presents staff operations. 107 (120) employees to support the volunteer structure of ASHRAE. Craig summarised his position within ASHRAE in administrative services, including managing 22 staff in IT and HR. He introduced the $30,000,000 budget approved in Indianapolis and a new alternate revenue stream from US DOE. He warns the participants to be attentive against email scams using false ASHRAE credentials.

Craig describes the support for research promotion, students, and major gifts. ASHRAE now provides European policy news updates. The ASHRAE communications committee publishes various ASHRAE newsletters: student, professional development, YEA, and government affairs.

Bill McQuade describes the current society mission, as created by Dennis Knight. Empowering our workforce: building a sustainable future. This mission focuses on recruiting and retaining more qualified people. One recommendation is to introduce -> inspire -> invite.

Craig continued his presentation, now describing the support from **Member services**, which includes Region XIV Member Spotlight, student design competitions and new DL information.

Bill McQuade thanked the Member Services team for clearing a backlog of CRC motions. New CRC motions must be added to the new CRC motion database. Eduardo added that he is the only one from the Region that can add motions to the database.

Finally, Craig concluded by presenting the **Publications and educational department** – The team includes 31 people and generates $10m/yr in revenue from writing, education, certification, and publications, and the **Technology department** – Craig asks members to get involved in the technical committees and apply for TC membership. Craig recommends members should join the standards and guidelines projects committees. Members can attend as an observer or join the committee. Craig also asks members to stop by in Atlanta and visit the new Headquarters or reach out via email.

Martin Dieryckx of the Belgium section raises a question about local legislations which must be followed.

Belgium recently became a section but sees possible legal issues for financial transactions. The section has no status as an organisation and is not a non-profit under Belgium law, unless officially published as a non-profit. All financial transactions must be under the treasurer's tax liability. Martin recommends setting up an organisation in Belgium due to Belgium's laws. He also recommends that ASHRAE committee members be careful when hosting big events. If ASHRAE hosts events inside the EU, the organizing committee will be personally liable.

Craig recommends that individual chapters look further into the laws applicability and personal liability insurance. Craig states that Chapters should fiscally responsible. They should consult a local tax consultant and/or establish a legal entity.

8. Student's society competition winners report

Mahroo introduces the 2023 student competition winners who attended the 2024 Winter conference in Chicago. The students who won ASHRAE competitions briefly describe their trip to Chicago, funded by ASHRAE. Students Tom and Laurence both thank ASHRAE for bringing so many people together and providing opportunities to students.

9. DRC report

Mahroo Eftekhari begins the DRC report by thanking the Ireland chapter. She introduces the newly formed Nordic section in November 2023, and their plans to start organising meeting and mobilising volunteers, and then becoming the Nordic Chapter in July 2024, the 200th currently operating Chapter in ASHRAE. Denmark wanted to become a chapter, with more than 40 signatures from the section. However, ASHRAE MOP section 11.1 required them to wait until Oct 2025. ASHRAE recommended they put a motion to Members Council to initiate the chapter earlier. The Nordic chapter was approved in July 2024 with 70 member signatures and a 3-year plan. Mahroo expressed the joy from welcoming the new Nordic Chapter.

The region got its first regional sponsor. A PayPal account has been setup for the region to support payments. Mahroo introduces the new regional webpage and emphasised that 'regional web page belongs to the region not a chapter or a person'. She thanked the new web master for setting up a new regional web page from scratch, gathering all historical data from the internet as no information was passed from the previous to the new web master. The old web page has been taken down a few weeks after the new regional one was ready to go. She asked chapters and sections to manage and update their relevant parts. Mahroo thanks Dimitris for his hard work on the Region webpage. Furthermore, Mahroo found sponsors for the webpage to generate revenue. Mahroo asks chapters to contact Dimitris to share updates and setup their own webpages.

Mahroo describes the region XIV CRC schedule. Israel was originally planned for the 2024 CRC, 2025 for Portugal, and 2026 for UK. However, due to the ongoing conflict in Israel, the colleagues in Israel agreed to consult Portugal Chapter. However, Portugal chapter decided not to accept the challenge and informed the DRC in December. So, the UK chapter was approached next and they volunteered to host the 2024 CRC at such a short notice.

Over 130 ASHRAE members attended the PAOE webmeeting requested by Region XIV.

During the previous year, Mahroo introduced new sections in Region XIV, which were approved by Members Council, namely Belgium, France, Germany and Italy. Italy now has 120 members. Mahroo recommends the new sections reach out to nearby chapters for support.

Mahroo thanks Ginger Scoggins, who inaugurated two new student branches at UCL and LSBU. She then introduces other student branches in region XIV. UClan in the UK sponsored 15 students to attend the ASHRAE winter conference in Chicago. The Setty family foundation sponsored 5 student winners from Loughborough University to attend the winter conference in Chicago.

Setty family foundation funded $3,000 to setup 10 new student branches in Europe. These include KTH Stockholm, Sweden --- University of Hull, UK --- Nordic student branch --- Politecnico di Milano, Italy --- Cyprus University, Cyprus.

Three of the region XIV chapters achieved PAOE membership goals, including Hellenic, Portugal and UK. Mahroo recommends that chapters claim PAOE when organising events.

Mahroo recommends ASHRAE members speak to co-workers in HVAC and building performance to recommend that they join ASHRAE and thus increase membership in Europe.

Mahroo informed about the CRC sponsors.

Chapter Dues of €5 per member, approved at CRC in Ireland, are to be invested in Region XIV student activities. Mahroo urges all chapters to pay their dues to support students.

ASHRAE generously provided 4 free places for the leadership academy from each region, in Atlanta, in January 2025.

10. Regional student winners

Student winners of the Regional Competition are recognised. The competition was titled ASHRAE Student competition – present for 5 minutes on how you see yourself tackling global climate change and what you expect from ASHRAE. 13 students entered the competition from 6 chapters, and all 13 students were given smart start.

Runner up: Lala from TUD Ireland. Lala conducting post occupancy monitoring data and requests ASHRAE to support the collection of monitored data for research. Lala expresses that ASHRAE does not include enough information on occupancy patterns and behaviour.

Runner up: Virgil Tomosorio thanks ASHRAE for supporting students to attend conferences providing the ability for them to meet inspirational people. Virgil asks ASHRAE to continue to support students.

2nd place: Francisco Calhindro from Portugal. Francisco describes his path. He requests ASHRAE to provide best practice case studies to educate.

1st place: Francisco Beltrian KTH Sweden – integration of solar with ground source heat pumps. He asks ASHRAE to support more research and innovation, to look at reaching students younger in outreach, to look at more international policy advocacy, and further mentorship and collaboration.

Mahroo tells students that they must put their future in their own hands and champion what they expect from ASHRAE. This is their ASHRAE and their opportunity to make a difference with the support from chapters, region and society.

Other student winners requested to attend the ASHRAE CRC and received support to attend.

Bill McQuade asked students to participate in the new series of ASHRAE videos to share what brought members to ASHRAE.

BREAK

11. Society strategic plan update

George WHO? introduced the new Global technical interaction committee aimed at expanding ASHRAE's technical reach outside of the US. The committee is currently exploring the things needed for ASHRAE to become more global. The committee includes three sub committees. Technical sub-committee for international standards. Special projects sub-committee aimed at UNEP assistance.

Andres provides a status update for the Society Strategic Plan. First, he expresses ASHRAE's missions and core values. He explains that we must collect feedback from the members' satisfaction surveys. The response rate is low. We are transitioning to a new strategic plan with a new three-year cycle. Three core objectives:

- Form global alliances and look to engage with standards and key stakeholders. Guide stakeholders to maximise positive impact.
- Enhance the impact of young professionals. Increase accessibility of content and resources. Eliminate barriers to access.
- Align communication between chapters to limit misunderstanding limiting access to information.

Strategic initiatives split into four initiatives. Healthy, sustainable, and resilient communities. Empower workforces, Organisational ability. Technology.

12. Decarbonisation

Blake Ellis presents the new chapter and region carbon guide. Developed to assist chapters to quantify and mitigate their carbon footprint. However, ASHRAE should not compromise its missions and productivity. It is simple to reduce scope 3 emissions by hosting events online. However, this would limit ASHRAE's ability to meet its core missions. The guide is divided into four sections: General, Chapters, Sections, Mitigation strategies. Blake introduced new Chapter decarbonization metrics.

A core consideration is mode of travel. For example, buses, trains, and ferries can reduce carbon footprint significantly relative to flying. Minimise event throwaway material. Regions and Chapters should consider closer DLs. Methods of transport. Location of venue closer to mass transit. Hybrid attendance. For example, ASHRAE UK Chapter selected a net zero carbon venue with reasonable mass transit options for the Region XIV CRC 2024. Mitigation strategies can be supplemented with sponsor funding for carbon offset if required.

13. RP fundraising

Darren Wilkinson (chair of innovation and technology) introduced a new initiative to reduce emissions by leveraging technology and AI. Darren expressed the benefits of AI LLMs to boost productivity. He also proposed the ability of AI in predictive maintenance, optimised HVAC control systems, and AI simulation to benefit HVAC system design. Darren provided examples, including Google Deepmind, reducing cooling loads in their data centres by 40%. However, there are a range of issues using AI including energy/emissions, inaccurate information, limited sourcing, and lack of critical thinking. Darren proposes a focus on the retrofit market.

To support the new AI committee funding, Darren introduced a new research promotion challenge: HVAC PROFESSIONAL: GET ME OUT OF HERE. He will be video logging an expedition in the jungle in Malasia.

14. RVC Reports

Each RVC had 5 minutes each to present their reports, highlighting successes and challenges from 2023/24, and plans for 2024/25:

GA: Dr. Ioan Silviu Dobosi – Ioan presented the GAC mission statement. He explained the function, structure, and members of the GAC. He set a target of 100 Government outreach events per year. Public policy priorities were discussed including promotion of standards.

CTTC: Conor Murray – Technology is a wide-ranging area. Conor wished to record thanks to Mahroo for her tremendous efforts and achievements as DRC. New members and new sections and our newest Chapter gained in 2024, is good news for CTTC. A high-tech Clean Rooms event is due to take place in the coming weeks, and more details and presentation slides can be found on Basecamp. A successful CTTC training event took place in July.

SA: Alkis Triantafyllopoulos – The past year saw a record increase from 30 to 34 Student Branches in the Region and also from 200 to 250 Student Members. K12 and K18 Students have been traditionally difficult to reach, and it is hoped that the Lucy series of books could prove a useful tool in this area. Not enough SA Chairs are attending the dedicated training sessions and this needs to improve, and all Chapters are encouraged to direct their SA Chairs towards this resource. SA Chairs are failing to create and upload their reports. Alkis has experienced disappointing behaviours from certain individuals within the Region XIV Chapter leadership.

MP: Prof Adelio Rodriques Gaspar – Three Chapters, Hellenic, Danube, and Portugal, have each met their growth goals. Six new MP Chairs have been appointed. Formation of a MP Team to assist the MP Chairs within each Chapter is strongly encouraged. MP Chairs are urged to contact Delinquent Members and work with Associate Members to elevate them to Member grade. Around 10% of Members have lapsed into Delinquency within the Region and must be contacted as a priority.

RP: Les Pereira, Aleksandar Andjelkovic - RP Training has been provided at the 2024 CRC by Les Pereira. Awards presented to Danube and Ireland Chapters in recognition of Aleksandar will approach Incoming RP Leaders will be

YEA: Amr Suliman – All Chapters show a noticeable improvement in their statistics. YEA Committee is running a decarbonisation challenge as implemented by Ginger Scoggins. Ireland Chapter is collaborating with CIBSE to establish a mentorship programme. UK Chapter has run successful HVAC exhibition and competition.

Nomination: Bata Blagojevic – Successful orientation of delegates from seven chapters. Collected nominations from seven chapters. Bata suggests all chapters should take part in nominations. Pre caucus meeting was conducted on 5th September which placed the region in a position to make a final selection. Bata thanked all delegates and representatives. Two important recommendations to all chapters: 1. Complete CIQ immediately after the annual meeting because it is required to be registered in the ASHRAE HQ. 2. Each chapter and section should nominate the best persons before voting takes place in Portugal.

Finance: Liviu Drughean – There are nine chapters in our region. Danube and Nordic have several countries within the chapter. Region XIV currently uses 3 accounts: USA (USD), Paypal (GBP), RO (Euro). $31k within the US account. £900 within the Paypal account. RO account was opened to draw €5 per member dues, paid by Chapters. Portugal have provided $20 from 4 members. Hellenic chapter has sent no money yet. Liviu explains that student travel to the CRC will be reimbursed through these Chapter dues. An audit committee comprising Isabel Sarmento, Mahroo Eftekhari, and Donal Finn has given their OK to the accounts.

> Alkis asks who is the beneficiary for the Paypal account. The region cannot be the beneficiary because it is not a legal entity. We are pushing each chapter to be a legal entity instead of each individual, which is a red flag. Hellenic chapter chose to send the money to the society instead of the RO account.
>
> Liviu believes it is not possible to become a legal entity due to cost constraints. Liviu states that the account would need to move country based on the DRC and money would be required to open an office in Brussels. Arkis contests the claim. Arkis expressed a distrust of ASHRAE region XIV funding being kept away from ASHRAE members. There should be more transparency.

Historian: Lawrence Copestick – more standards are being translated into Spanish. Danube chapter has achieved high attendance at events. Portugal chapter student won a global HVAC student competition. Lawrence congratulates all student event winners.

DEI: Laura Sanches – Laura states that the DEI mission is to find the right message. As a multinational organisation, there can be a divided view on DEI. We should coordinate within each chapter because DEI can be unique within

each region. Laura asks why there are 19 women leaders but none as RVC. Laura congratulates the UK chapter for winning the RAC cooling DEI award.

BREAK

15. Chapter reports

UK (Dimitris Tseno) – 8 YEA members in TCs. Nominations for the developing leader award. Nine student branches. Scholarship provided to students. PAOE points increased by seven points. Hosting the 2024 CRC. Plans to setup further student branches such as in Birmingham. New mission to promote smart start. Big challenges for ASHRAE UK: Difficult to grow attendance against when competing against CPD providers and difficulty getting HVAC companies to attend events.

Cyprus (Dr Polyvios Eleftheriou) – first student branch at UCy with multiple students attending the CRC in Oxford. Webpage is in progress. Interest in further student branches after the success of the first one. Plans include further DL events and inviting Pau Garcia. Polyvios explains that there are only 29 members because it is a small country. They have the highest ASHRAE members per capita in Region XIV. Polyvios asks for further and increased collaboration with local chapters to provide more events for Cyprus members. Mahroo recommends that the Cyprus chapter arrange a visit with ASHRAE President Dennis Knight. Bill McQuade states the priority of the ASHRAE president to visit all chapters.

Danube (Prof Andrei Burlacu) – The chapter received approximately 15 new members per year since 2023 which they predict to continue. The chapter received $530 for annual RP? contributions. The chapter is getting involved in government affairs through healthcare and energy. The chapter has 20 student members across 4 countries. Andrei shared the success of recent meetings.

Hellenic (Marios Tsakiris) –The chapter organised 4 international 'energy in buildings' conferences. Membership growth of 16% annually. Marios explains the requests of sponsors to push for guidance regarding ESGs from the EU. The Hellenic chapter will continue the 'energy in buildings' conferences while trying to attract new members, students and sponsors. A secondary goal includes more voting due to low turnout in voting. The chapter promotes the ASHRAE Cleanrooms Excellence International Conference 2024, which it will host in Athens. Marios expresses their collaboration with universities. The Hellenic chapter wishes to collaborate further with Spain chapter. There is a bigger emphasis on women in engineering events. Strengthen intraregional collaboration.

Ireland (Gary O'sulivan) – Gary expresses growing promotion of CRC attendance and new sponsors to benefit students. However, they have struggled with too few volunteers and burnout. Ireland chapter saw problems retaining students into full members. Ireland chapter stresses the free manuals in CIBSE and the benefits these provide to students, urging ASHRAE to also provide these resources to students.

Israel (David T Young) – David expresses the growing membership during difficult times. There have been many technical meetings and seminars, then a further four-chapter conventions totalling 32 hours of lecturers. Israel wishes to promote student activities better. The chapter is growing relations. The chapter wishes to increase its annual budget through increased sponsorship. The chapter has low academic membership and low female membership.

Nordic (Samir Hernandez) – Samir explains that the chapter is new and growing. 2023-2024 included 5 events, 2 of which were in person. The chapter wishes to expand to other Nordic countries, including Sweden, which will be pushed by new events. This year, the chapter plans to host 8 events, 4 of which will be in person. There are now 2 student branches with 20 students. Financial resources are currently the largest issue for the Nordic chapter which will fade with new sponsors. Other issues have been lack of volunteers to manage the chapter and running events. Samir states the plan to reach out to current members to push for volunteering and advertising on LinkedIn.

Portugal (Carlos Farto) – The chapter saw significant achievements this year, including PAOE points and multiple wins in global student competitions. The chapter wishes to leverage its achievements to find new members and

student members. Major target to motivate students and young engineers by promoting DL lectures. The chapter will increase its hosting of site visits, technical visits, and conferences to motivate members. Portugal asks for more financial support from ASHRAE after the society saved money on hard copies of material.

Spain (Mar Serna) – The chapter hosted 13 technical conferences included 10 in Madrid and 2 in Barcelona. The chapter translated 3 new standards into Spanish and created a new employment platform. Spain promoted the building decarbonisation conference in Madrid during April 2025. Key plans include sharing ASHRAE knowledge and growing student members. The chapter has plans to increase its site visits to grow student members.

Italy (Gunther Berthold) – Gunther thanks Mahroo for pushing the Italy section and presents the new board of members. The chapter established a new student branch in Milan and is currently creating another in Florence. The section is developing its LinkedIn page and its web page. There are plans for the first in person meeting in November 2024. The section will participate in AiCARR and Clima 2025 conferences. The section is expanding its committees and working groups to develop guidance specific to the Italian market, growing its value to members. The section would like to utilise ASHRAE's DLs through webinars.

Belgium (Martin Dieryckx) - no activity reported.

Germany (Gunnar Grun) - no activity reported.

CRC 2025 (Portugal Chapter) – Carlos expresses that there was miscommunication in emails. Portugal chapter has no updates for the upcoming 2025 CRC at this time.

Tour of Oxford town centre followed by Harry Potter dinner at Randolph hotel.

SUNDAY 22 September

16. Call to Order

Mahroo started the session and welcomed everyone.

17. RMCR Report

Eduardo presented the RMCR report, an update from members council activities, the status of 2023 region XIV society motions and motions of interest from other regions.

18. Chapter Motions

Mahroo facilitates discussion and voting on chapter motions (detailed motions in annex).

A) Society Motions

[Motion 1]: Spain chapter - Membership Promotion committee to establish a Workforce Development subcommittee.

Seconded: Portugal chapter

Discussion: Looking for a more permanent membership promotion (MP). We must attract new talent. MP already has a tight schedule. You need to add new members to the subcommittee. Some members stated the high importance of this motion.

Vote (for/against/abstain): 9/0/0 - PASS

[Motion 2]: Nordic chapter – to allow for an option for a viable Section to become a Chapter without the mandatory 2-year waiting period.

Seconded: UK chapter

No discussion

Voting (for/against/abstain): 9/0/0 - PASS

[Motion 3]: UK chapter – regional student representative in ASHRAE student competitions to be selected by an independent regional panel.

Seconded: Cyprus chapter

Discussion: General idea is good. The RVC could already do this if the work load is high and the RVC so decides. In theory, if someone is biased, they should exclude themselves. It would create a better atmosphere for students if they are provided more feedback. Currently not allowed to give any feedback. Feedback is not covered in this motion. Only 1 team is submitted per region to the society. SA RVC does not provide feedback how they judge the student competitions. There is no regional level grading or score card. Current RVC made a score card which was forwarded to RVCs. There could be a clearer scoring system on a regional level with less interpretation from an individual SA RVC. Two issues: Who selects a winner (SA RVC or a committee) and how are they selected (scoring card or SA RVC expert selection)? More independence and openness seems like a great idea. Everybody has a bias, increasing the number of judges from one to a panel can only be a good thing. Most regions have a panel to evaluate student competition entries without being prescriptively required. Standard practice in the US is to collect a review panel from industry. UK Chapter makes a review panel within the chapter but region XIV does not. Current SA RVC would be happy to reduce workload.

Voting (for/against/abstain): 9/0/0 – PASS

[Motion 4]: UK Chapter (Hellenic) – Student competition winners should be presented awards on stage at the winter conference.

Seconded: Hellenic chapter

Discussion: Return to pre-pandemic practices. Bring more recognition to winners. In 2019, students went on stage and received the award. However, in 2023, only a video was played on screen.

Voting (for/against/abstain): 9/0/0 – PASS

[Motion 5]: UK Chapter – Student competition winners should be provided formal feedback on their submission.

Seconded: Israel chapter

Discussion: Teams do not currently know if they are pushed to the society level. They do not know what they did wrong. Discussed partially in motion 3.

Motion amended with removal of the original last sentence of the motion.

Voting (for/against/abstain): 9/0/0 – PASS

[Motion 6]: Danube Chapter – Regional refrigeration vice chair position to be created at society level

Seconded: Ireland chapter

Discussion: Refrigeration is often more important than heating needs around the world. The society must have a stronger connection to local refrigeration updates. What is the role of the new RVC? Are they part of the refrigeration committee? We currently have RVCs for RP etc. The motion creator wants a new 7th RVC for refrigeration. The current commission for refrigeration should be upgraded to RVC. Right now, the CTTC chapter level can have a refrigeration chair for each chapter. The society has a refrigeration under the tech committee to set the societal roadmaps, RP, etc. from a societal level. This role would need a different role to the ASHRAE level and tech committees. The tech committee is current a liaison. You can currently sign up to the tech committees online. Perhaps the committee just needs better communication to the chapters.

Bill McQuade recommends the motion be delayed, clarified, and resubmitted. We shouldn't mix the business side with the technical side. There is already a refrigeration committee.

Motion withdrawn.

B) Regional Motions

[Motion 7]: UK Chapter – Create a regional panel of judges for regional student competitions

Seconded: Spain chapter

Discussion: SA RVC should set up the panel. Not the responsibility of the RVC. UK accepts amendment to put responsibility on the SA RVC to establish a panel of judges. The panel of judges should always be an odd number.

Voting (for/against/abstain): 9/0/0 – PASS,

Alkis will not take the responsibility. Dimitris from UK Chapter should lead implementation of this motion.

[Motion 8]: UK Chapter – Provide feedback to student competition entries at the regional level

Seconded: Cyprus chapter

Discussion: SA RVC argues that we currently make the rules, why do we need this in a motion.

Voting (for/against/abstain): 9/0/0 – PASS

Dimitris from UK Chapter to champion implementation of this motion

[Motion 9]: UK Chapter – All RVCs must arrange virtual meetings twice per year with CRCs to improve communication. *(amended to remove DRCs, and RMCR, and change should by must)*

Seconded: Nordic chapter

Discussion: Foster stronger relations. Improve cohesion of event planning. Share updates and feedback. Develop more responsive and dynamic response systems. SA RVC argues it is a good motion but attendance is already low for meetings called by RVC. The problem is the world should. We should change the wording to must. There are already regional workshops and centralised training sessions. There could be more meetings but perhaps bimonthly is too frequent. Members argue that they have attended a lot of these meetings and there is low attendance. Members argue that twice per year will improve on what is currently ongoing without pushing too far. This must come down to chapter presidents. We are all volunteers. If a president isn't doing their role, you need a new volunteer. You have a time commitment. The RVCs must turn around to ASHRAE and say if the chapter president hasn't attended training, how do they know how to do their role. Are there barriers to success? Can we share best practices? Share what has been successful will be useful as soon as possible, this could be quarterly. Why share what worked well after 9 months. Create more opportunities to learn and grow. Portugal asks: can we appoint another specific member to attend the meeting? Only the officers are elected, chairs are appointed volunteers. It is better to have someone attend than no one. Make people think about their objectives on a quarterly level. Co chair is a good role to split tasks. Ireland argues they have issues getting volunteers

Voting (for/against/abstain): 9/0/0 – PASS

RVCs to champion the implementation of this motion.

[Motion 10]: UK Chapter – Chapters must pay $5 per area assigned member. No additional fee collected from members. Fee drawn from existing chapter funds. To replace a previous regional motion from the Ireland CRC.

Seconded: Ireland chapter

Discussion: Concerns about mandatory objective of the motion. Chapters may be doing good work to grow members and they are punished by paying more. It is proportional to chapter size. Regional financial policy in ASHRAE guidelines provides recommendations how regions should acquire funding. These guidelines have never been followed. Before following this motion, we should follow ASHRAE guidelines. The ASHRAE guidelines haven't been

followed because it hasn't had a budget. Liviu will present the budget to the region once a budget is prepared. Other regions typically make a budget and divide it between chapters on an area assigned member structure. There is some leeway in the ASHRAE guidelines. Some regions have $100,000s but Region XIV has $0. Bill recommends the region to draw a proposed budget and describe spending allocation which can then be split on a per member area assigned basis. Motion withdrawn until Liviu presents the budget.

Motion withdrawn.

[Motion 11]: UK Chapter – The host chapter of a CRC should fund the CRC registration of student competition winners.

Seconded: Hellenic chapter

Discussion: It is hard enough to get funds to create a CRC. This is difficult for the CRC host to fund. Perhaps the CRC ticket funding should come from the Region. However, this would limit the ability of the region budget. Should the funding go to any entrance or only student ASHRAE members? SA RVC recommend student who aren't members cannot take part in the student competition. UK argues that the competition attracts new members. UK agrees that only student members can receive financial awards. Ireland argues they must be a registered ASHRAE student member to enter the competition. Ireland says they are currently funding all student entries to become student members. All other chapters should do the same. Hellenic chapter argues that CIBSE requires students become members to submit competition entries. This is not current ASHRAE guidelines. Sarah recommends students put some skin in the game regardless of cost and the chapter can fund any remaining free (e.g. $5 and chapter covers $15). Students are tough to convince. You don't often get the investment back. Perhaps force students to attend chapter meetings to fund their student membership. Cyprus shares issues with students saying they will become student members but they don't find time or forget. Can we make student membership easier?

Voting (for/against/abstain): 9/0/0 - PASS

CRC Chairs to champion the implementation of this motion.

[Motion 12]: Spain Chapter – Identify and list European members in ASHRAE TCs

Seconded: Ireland chapter

Discussion: provide technical perspective on the European market, European standards, European regulations. Ireland and Hellenic chapters spoke in favor.

After a short discussion this was assigned as an action item for the CTTC RVC, and for the DRC to check progress.

Voting (for/against/abstain): 9/0/0 - PASS.

[Motion 13]: Spain Chapter – to have someone responsible in each Chapter for checking alignment with ASHRAE Strategic Plan

Seconded: UK chapter

Voting (for/against/abstain): 9/0/0 – PASS.

Chapter Presidents to implement this motion. DRC to compile inputs from chapter presidents.

[Motion 14]: Danube Chapter – Danube Chapter host the 2026-27 CRC be held in Timisoara, Romania

Seconded: Israel chapter

Discussion: Proposal welcomed and supported unanimously by all Chapters

Voting (for/against/abstain): 9/0/0 PASS

Regional Treasurer Budgetary Presentation.

The Treasurer presented a balance sheet totalling 5,839.23 Euros, which are being held in a Romanian Bank Account until a Regional Bank Account can be opened.

Discussion: Portugal Chapter stated that the Budget should be presented to all Chapters in advance of the CRC.

The Treasurer explained this is the first time a Region XIV Budget has been presented to Chapters. Ireland Chapter seconded Portugal's request that Chapters receive the Regional Treasurers Report in advance of the CRC so that full transparency is achieved. Ireland also queried why about $30k reserve funds being held in the US Dollar Account cannot be accessed and utilised for the benefit of the Region.

The DRC explained that, now that a Budget has been presented, Chapters discuss at the leadership meetings how to develop and more accurately form the budget and all related finance.

It was proposed that the DRC and Treasurer work together to establish ASHRAE Region XIV as a legal entity, and thereafter open a Region XIV Bank Account, as the first steps, so that Regional Finances can be more thoroughly discussed at Regional Leadership meetings.

Voting (for/against/abstain): 9/0/0 PASS. The Region XIV annual Budget for 2024-25 has been approved.

Region XIV CRC 2025

Portugal Chapter stated that they are looking forward to hosting the 2025 CRC which will be held in Lisbon during September. At this stage, an exact date and a venue have not yet been finalised, nor has the programme for business meetings, technical presentations, etc. The DRC and the Spain Chapter extended their full support to the Portugal Chapter and offered to join the CRC 2025 Planning Committee to finalise dates, venue, programme and social activities.

Concluding Remarks.

The DRC drew the 2024 CRC to a close and thanked all attendees for their highly positive contribution to the 2024 CRC and stated that, despite several unresolved matters, the Chapter leadership should not lose the momentum of development within their Chapters, especially regarding Membership recruitment and securing industry Sponsorship.

The ASHRAE President-Elect congratulated the UK Chapter for arranging such a successful CRC, considering that they only had nine months to do so. He looks forward to attending the 2025 CRC during his Presidential Year and will be pleased to support Portugal in ensuring its success.

The ASHRAE Treasurer echoed the sentiments of the DRC and the President-Elect and thanked the UK Chapter for arranging a successful CRC. Mahroo adjourned the meeting at 17:59 hrs

END

19. CRC Evaluation

ASHRAE Staff, UK CRC Officers, and one Portugal CRC 2025 Officer (Luis Neto) met to evaluate the performance of the 2024 CRC. All those present each provided one thing they thought went well, and one thing which could be improved. Portugal chapter took notes.

Attendance:

Net Zero summit: 150

BBQ dinner: 75

Business meetings: 68

Gala dinner: 116

Presidential lunch: 75

Harry Potter dinner: 96