The Technical Committee on System Identification and Adaptive Control (TCSIAC) is pleased to report on activities undertaken during the past six months (June - November 2008).

1. The committee met on June 11, 2008 during the American Control Conference in Seattle, with 10 members in attendance. Our next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 9 as part of the 2008 CDC in Cancún.

2. We have been making significant strides in increasing membership. The committee roster has expanded from 34 members at the end of 2007 to 62 members at the current time. Particular emphasis continues to be placed on seeking members with industrial or national lab affiliations, and with expertise in adaptive control.

3. The committee spearheaded efforts to organize two invited sessions for the 2008 CDC in Cancún. One session “Advances in LPV System Identification: Methods and Applications” (ThB03) with organizers C. Novara, P. Lopes dos Santos, J. Ramos, M. Verhaeghan, and D. Rivera was included in the program. The second session entitled “System Identification in Systems Biology and Medicine” jointly sponsored with the Systems Biology TC, was not accepted as a stand-alone session, but most of the papers did make it to the final program as part of contributed sessions.

4. The committee continues to actively promote efforts to develop special sections on system identification and adaptive control topics in IEEE CSS publications. We are pleased to report that we received approval from the Editorial Board of the IEEE Transactions on Control Systems Technology for a Special Section on Applied LPV Modeling and Identification. The Call for Papers can be found in http://ieeexplore.ieee.org/stamp/stamp.jsp?arnumber=04655423. Guest editors are TC members Marco Lovera, Carlo Novara, Paulo Lopes dos Santos, and Daniel Rivera. Manuscripts are due through Manuscript Central no later than April 30, 2009.

5. On-going discussion within TCSIAC includes establishing a new generation of data and software depositories that could be used as benchmarks for evaluating system identification techniques. We are also interested in enhancing educational efforts in the fields of system identification and adaptive control through novel technology, such as interactive software tools. The goal is to go beyond analysis of fixed data sets to consider scenarios where experimental design, data generation, end-use applications, and possible hardware implementation would be involved. At our 2008 ACC meeting, TC member
Vit Babuska brought to the attention of the TC an “Adaptive Structures Shootout” session held at a recent AIAA meeting that involved testing with a hardware platform onsite. The goal in these efforts is to harmonize with complementary activities that are currently underway by the IFAC TC on modeling, identification, and signal processing chaired by H. Hjalmarsson.

6. We completed an article that will appear in the “Technical Committee Activities” segment of the February 2009 issue of Control Systems Magazine.

7. Looking to the future, CSS is a co-sponsor of the IFAC SYSID 2009 meeting (to be held in St. Malo, France in July 2009); eleven members of the TC are members of the SYSID 2009 IPC. We also have begun to discuss organizing invited sessions for the 2009 MSC and CDC conferences in St. Petersburg, Russia and Shanghai, China, respectively.