Aston University Quality and Standards Committee

Module Specification

School and Subject Group		School of Engineering and Applied Science, Electronic En-		
		gineering		
Module Code		EE7003		
Module Title		Sensing Networks		
Module Type		Taught		
Date of introduction of new module		2010		
Level		7	Credit Value	10
Programme(s) in which module is avail-		MSc in Sensing		
able				
Involvement of Other Schools		None		
Resource Split				
Name of Module Co-ordinator		Dr. John A.R. Williams		
Name of Module Advisor		Dr. Kate Sugden		
Related Modules	Pre-requisites	None		
	Co-requisites	None		
	Prohibited Combi-	None		
	nations			
Minimum and Maximum Intake Sizes		None – None		

Aims of the Module

To provide an overview of the applications, characteristics, platforms and data processing require-

ments of wireless sensor networks.

Summary of Content

1. Applications

- (a) Area Monitoring
- (b) Environmental Monitoring
- (c) Industrial Monitoring

2. Characterisitics

- (a) Power limitations and challenges
- (b) Ability to withstand harsh environmental conditions
- (c) Coping with node and communication failures
- (d) Node mobility, dynamic network topology and heterogeneity of nodes
- (e) Large scale deployment and unattended operation
- (f) Scalability and bandwidth requirements
- (g) Lifetime maximization, Robustness and fault tolerance, self-configuration

3. Platforms

- (a) Standards: ZigBee, WirelessHART, 6LowPAN, ISA100 and IEEE 1451
- (b) Sensor Node Hardware
- (c) Software: TinyOS, middleware distributed database, mobile agent and event based approaches
- (d) Programming Languages: nesC, Labview

4. Simulation

(a) TOSSIM and n-2

Summary of Methods and Frequency of Lectures 18 hours.						
Teaching	Laboratory 12 hours. Ad-hoc wireless network simulation					
Summary of Methods of Assessment and Feedback including Formative Feedback						
	uirements		Due			
Туре						
Laboratory Compulsory 40.0 Sin	nulation and optimisation of a wireless network, as-					
	sed by report Feedback given to individual students					
	online form					
1 2	formal examination Marks released via local on-					
	Examination line grades page prior to examination board.					
Module Outcomes - what the student should	l gain from suc-	Learning and Teaching and Assessment				
cessful completion of the module:	Strategies to enable outcomes to be					
		achieved and demonstrated				
		Learning and	Assessment Meth-			
A 77 1 1 1 177 1	1,	Teaching Methods	ods			
A. Knowledge and Understa		Tata and an Tar	P1 P			
Marks released via local online grades page nation board.	prior to exami-	Laboratory, Lec-	Formal Examina-			
B. Intellectual Skills	tures	tion, Laboratory				
convey complex ideas in a structured schola	Laboratory	Laboratory				
to perform independent work in problem so	•	Laboratory	Laboratory			
C. Professional Skills	iving					
D. Transferable Skills						
Please provide either or both of:						
(i) Introductory Learning Resources	Online tutorials and Blackboard					
(ii) Core Texts	To be confirmed					
Reading Lists	Attached					
Specification completed by:	Prof. Keith J Blow					
Date	22-Dec-2009					
Date module approved by Teaching						
Committee(s)						
Date module approved by School						
Board(s)						