The opening ceremony on August 28th, as well as the banquet of September 1st, will take place in the Milano Congress Center MiCo. The congress technical sessions from Monday 29 August to 2 September, as well as the closing ceremony of September 2nd, will be held at UCSC (Universita’ Cattolica delSacro Cuore).

A rough timetable is given below.

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<tr>
<th>TIME SLOT</th>
<th>Sunday</th>
<th>Monday</th>
<th>Tuesday</th>
<th>Wednesday</th>
<th>Thursday</th>
<th>TIME SLOT</th>
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<tr>
<td>08:30</td>
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<td>Plenary</td>
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<td>15:15</td>
<td>Closing Ceremony and Farewell Reception</td>
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<td>18:15</td>
<td>Opening Ceremony and Welcome Reception</td>
<td>Plenary</td>
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For more detail you are cordially invited to visit the Congress website www.ifac2011.org.
The time of the triennial IFAC World Congress is also the time, when the IFAC General Assembly, consisting of the National Member Organizations from more than 50 countries come together to listen when IFAC Officers and Officials report on the activities of the past three years. The NMO delegates take decisions on issues and motions presented, they consider the financial figures presented by the Treasurer and vote on the indemnification of the Treasurer.

One of the most important tasks then is to vote in the new team of Officers and Officials, who are entrusted with managing the Federation from 2011 to 2014.

In addition to the delegates from IFAC's National Member Organizations, representatives of organizations from non-IFAC countries are invited to the General Assembly as observers.

In the days preceding the General Assembly, the various IFAC Committees and Boards as well as the Council meet to give account and to sum up the business of the triennium from 2008 - 2011. In the days following the General Assembly, the newly elected and appointed IFAC officials meet for the first time again in their respective Committees and Boards. There is always great care taken that on the one hand, continuity is preserved, while on the other hand, new developments and trends are heeded.

Needless to say how proud and grateful IFAC can be that all these services to IFAC are voluntary and unpaid. The only constant cost factors for the Federation are the - operation of the Secretariat, where lean but efficient management with the best staff and excellent cutting edge electronic equipment is the rule. - the operation of IFAC PapersOnLine - the IFAC Foundation

In the next issues of the IFAC Newsletter we will bring further reports on the administrative meetings and introduce the new operative persons who will be elected and appointed in Milan.

In this Newsletter, we should like to present to you another large group of volunteers working for and within IFAC. Technical Board Chair and Vice-President Iven Mareels will present this group of people, who are the many members of IFAC Technical Committees.

IFAC and its Volunteer Work Force

Clearly IFAC has a number of significant advantages compared to similar organizations around the world. First the barriers to participation are minimal. Secondly, and in line with the first advantage, IFAC embraces all aspects of the domain of automation and control, from the esoteric theories to appropriate implementation, and socio-economic impact of automation and control. It can do better in terms of industry participation, and that is one area where the TB is going to pay attention to in its next triennium. Finally, it is truly a worldwide organization, global and without borders, without political persuasion being purely motivated by knowledge, and engineering.

To illustrate the simplicity of individual participation, note in particular that there is no personal fee associated with belonging to the IFAC family, as the organizational fee burden is currently carried by 51 National Member Organizations (NMOs) (not quite a united nations, but nevertheless a substantial multi-national representation) that ensure that IFAC is a properly registered and functioning organization.

However, participating and volunteering do entail significant responsibility as well. It is not sufficient to say, I am interested. There is work to be done. As we are all volunteers with a bit more than a 9 to 5 job already, volunteering is about giving back to the community above and beyond normal duties. IFAC has to rely on the old saying „many hands make light work“, meaning that as you/we volunteer, IFAC expects—no...relies on a minimal time commitment and that guidelines are going to be followed. All efforts are coordinated through Technical Committees and Coordinating Committees, overseen by a Board. IFAC must rely on all volunteers to chip in appropriately, and hence when you say I am in, means you are going to contribute, and others are going to rely on this effort. The main effort is indeed in reviewing, reading proposals and expressing value judgments. However there are opportunities for organizing workshops, introducing new ideas, and developing new activities.

For example

How does IFAC improve its www-presence? How do we in IFAC start webinars? Is there room for an IFAC TC LinkedIn grouping?

How do we make use of modern communication technology to represent a true picture of the field to the broad community (really if we do this, it is not for the specialists, but for the non-specialist audiences that we should cater).

So, what is it for you?

First there is the knowledge that you work with excellent colleagues for the furthering of automation and control, to ensure quality conferences are held and quality publications represent the true effort and progress in the field. Perhaps more important is that you build your own career, and improve your own promotion prospects by being associated with a world class organization. (We realize that IFAC perhaps does not recognize very formally all the efforts of all volunteers. If that is an aspect we need to improve, we would like to hear about this, and know how and what recognition would be most beneficial.) Even more important however is that we build careers for up- and-coming young researchers and through IFAC make a difference.

The future for IFAC is indeed bright. Control and automation are at the focal point of so many activities, now more than ever authorities and companies, industries and organizations more broadly are starting to see the benefits of making infrastructure smart, at scales never imagined before. IFAC should be well placed to inform these discussions and create immense impact in such diverse areas as biomedical engineering, biotechnology, geomatics, and perhaps most important of all, sustainable living on our planet. The fact that IFAC draws its volunteers from across the globe, and is an organization truly without borders, or national identity, should be an enormously important asset to be able to provide meaningful input in the global debate around sustainability.

Comments, opinions and volunteering effort are welcome!

Iven Mareels
Vice-President
Chair of the Technical Board

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published bimonthly
2011 Fellows Elected

In this Newsletter we continue introducing the Fellows elected in 2011 to our readers.

Jian Song

Dr. Jian Song is a distinguished scientist in the fields of control theory, system engineering and aerospace technology. He received the Candidate of Science (PhD equivalent) in 1960 from MBTY, and a Doctor of Science in 1990 from the Moscow National Technical University.

He is a member of China’s Academy of Sciences and a foreign member of the National Academy of Engineering (US). Russian Academy of Sciences, Swedish Royal Academy of Technical Sciences (IVA), and others. Lack of space does not allow to list all of them.

Over the last four decades, he has accomplished tremendous achievements in the fields of control theory, robot and missile and aerospace technology, and population control theory. He made significant contributions to the development of S&T and environmental protection in China. It was Song who first proposed nation building through technology and education in 1995 which has become one of the three key national development strategies. He also made great contributions to a diverse array of disciplines including optimal control, distributed parameter systems control described by partial differential equations, engineering cybernetics, and population control theory. He formulated and proved the “Theorem of Double-edged Limit of Total Fertility Rates,” which is an important theorem in demography and provides a scientific foundation for formulation of China’s family planning program. He initiated and successfully carried out the “Sparks Program” aimed at alleviating rural poverty and developing rural/township enterprises throughout China. He also initiated and guided the implementation of the “Torch Program”, which has spearheaded the development of high-tech industries across China, as well as the “863 Program” (high-tech research) and “Climbing Program” (fundamental science research).

For his academic accomplishments and scientific/engineering contributions, Song has been conferred a number of honors and awards both at home and abroad. He is among the first to be awarded “Most Distinguished Young Scientist” award in China. In 1987, Song was conferred the highest National Award for Scientific and Technological Progress for his achievements in population control study. In the same year, he became the recipient of the Albert Einstein Award, the highest honor from the International Association for Mathematical Modeling. Other honors he received included China’s National Natural Science Prize in 1982, the 1982 National Prize for Excellent Scientific Publications for revising „Engineering Cybernetics,” a milestone work in cybernetics embracing the phenomenal development, and the very special HLHL Award in 1998 for his outstanding achievements in science.

Song has authored and co-authored thirteen books and published more than 100 scientific articles.

Shankar P. Bhattacharyya

Shankar P. Bhattacharyya was born in Yangon, Myanmar on June 23, 1946. He obtained the B.Tech (Honors) degree in Electrical Engineering from IIT, Bombay in 1967 and the M.S. and Ph.D degrees in Electrical Engineering from Rice University (Houston, TX, USA) in 1969 and 1971 respectively. From 1971-80 he was with the Federal University in Rio de Janeiro where he established Brazil’s first graduate program in Control Engineering at COPPE and also served as Head of the Electrical Engineering Department.

He has held an NRC-NASA Research Associate-ship (1974-75), a Senior Fulbright Lectureship (1989), and the Boeing-Welliver Faculty Fellowship (1998). At present he is the Robert M. Kennedy Professor of Electrical Engineering at Texas A & M University in College Station, TX, USA. He is a Fellow of the IEEE and a Fellow of the International Federation of Automatic Control (IFAC).

Prof. Bhattacharyya’s contributions to Control Theory span forty years and include the first solution of the multivariable servomechanism problem (1970, 1972), the theory of robust and unknown-input observers (1976,1978), a numerically efficient pole-assignment algorithm based on Sylvester’s equation (1981), the determination of the parametric stability margin (1986), generalizations of Kharitonov’s Theorem (1987, 2011) and the Hermite-Bieler Theorem (1999), the demonstration of the fractality of high order and optimal controllers (1997), modern synthesis of PID and fixed order controllers (2001, 2008), the Bose equivalent of the Nyquist criterion (2010) and most recently a new approach to model and identification-free, measurement-driven approach to the synthesis and design of general circuits, systems and networks. He has coauthored six books and over 200 journal and conference papers.

Shankar Bhattacharyya is also an international concert artist and has performed Indian classical music on the sarod in many countries.

John Baillieul

John Baillieul’s research deals with robotics, the control of mechanical systems, and mathematical system theory. His PhD dissertation, completed at Harvard University under the direction of R.W. Brockett in 1975, was an early work dealing with connections between optimal control theory and what has recently been called “sub-Riemannian geometry.” After publishing a number of papers developing geometric methods for nonlinear optimal control problems, he turned his attention to problems in the control of nonlinear systems modeled by homogeneous polynomial differentials. Such systems describe, for example, the controlled dynamics of a rigid body. His main controllability theorem applied the concept of finite dimension to a control problem that could be verified by checking the rank of an explicit finite dimensional operator. In looking for additional ways in which the theory of algebraic geometry could be used to address problems in engineering, Baillieul began a collaboration with C.L. Byrnie that led to work on control and stability theory of large-scale electric energy system dynamics. A significant discovery was that solutions to the lossless lead-lag synthesis problem could be exactly enumerated as a result of identifying and isolating some spurious solutions of dimension higher than zero.

During the mid 1980’s, Baillieul collaborated with M. Levi to develop a control theory for rotating elastic systems. Baillieul and Levi’s results on the stability of equilibrium configurations of rotating elastic spacecraft have provided the foundation for a great deal of subsequent research in the area. At about this time in his career, Baillieul wrote a number of papers on motion planning and control of kinematically redundant manipulators. Concerned with the spacecraft work, this led naturally to work on problems associated with anholonomy in planning motions for robots which have elastic joints and other components which store energy. This work led naturally to applying the methods of dynamical systems theory and classical geometric nonlinear control theory to problems of current technological interest including problems of fluid structure interactions, micro-ecological mechanism dynamics, and network and network mediated control of large scale device arrays.

His most recent work has dealt with the interplay between communications and information theory and control. He was among the first to articulate a version of the now well-known data-rate theorem—which gives a simple bound in terms of open-loop pole locations on the data-rate that must be sustained in a closed loop system in order for it to be stable. Together with Keyong Li, he has gone on to explore source coding of feedback signals which are designed to provide optimally robust performance in the face of finitely many feedback channel capacity. Motivated by this work, Baillieul has been led to other challenges in the design and operation of networked control systems. He was a pioneer in applying ideas from the theory of graph rigidity to cooperative control of multiple autonomous mobile robots. The work on formation rigidity that has followed the 2003 CDC paper of Baillieul and Suri is an important piece of this abstraction.

Baillieul’s most recent work deals with decision making in mixed teams of humans and intelligent automata and in particular in laying the foundation of action-mediated communication within such teams. John Baillieul is a Fellow of the IEEE and a Fellow of SIAM.
The IFAC Foundation

The IFAC Foundation, created in 2004, is a not-for-profit organization that accepts donations from individuals and organizations that wish to contribute to the mission of IFAC. Like IFAC, the goal of the IFAC Foundation is to support development of automation and automatic control science, technology and education that benefits the global economy and human life.

The IFAC Foundation is organized and operated under appropriate regulations to qualify as a charitable organization. Operations are carried out by the IFAC Foundation Board of Trustees.

Funds donated to the Foundation have recently been used for the following purposes:
- support of authors from developing countries, to allow them to present their papers at the IFAC World Congress in Milan, Italy
- organization of the 2011 Asian School of Automatic Control - Advances in Automatic Control Systems for Sustainable Industries (see the report below)
- organization of the Regional Control Course for Central America (see the report on this page)

If you wish to learn more about the IFAC Foundation, go to the Foundation website at http://foundation.ifac-control.org/

The 2011 Asian School of Automatic Control

Advances in Automatic Control Systems for Sustainable Industries

Bangkok, Thailand, January 19 – 21, 2011

Goals

The main goal of this program is to provide seminal material to raise the possibilities to create, promote or consolidate research and educational groups dealing with automatic control theory and technology from developing countries in the South East Asian region. The ultimate objectives of the course should be to provide the participants with an overview of the main principles and technologies for the latest development of control. In addition, this event provides a forum for discussion of new ideas, research, development and applications, including techniques and methods to stimulate and inspire pioneering works in control engineering. Particularly, recent issues in the application of control technology in some areas of special local interest will be emphasized.

Social Impact

Besides improving the knowledge in the development of control system, by attending the course, the participants and the control community are also given more opportunity to have access to the latest information in research, technology and applications in the field of control systems. Moreover, the interaction during the course with leading persons in the subject could also be used as starting point to establish international linkages with other institutions and to create new research opportunities as part of improving the quality of research and teaching in the regions and to comply to the international standards.

Objectives

a. To promote the cooperation of IFAC and ACA and AUN/SEED-Net and ECTI Thailand and their programs on education to the South East Asian countries

b. To establish a network of graduate students and/or young faculty staff with interest in automatic control from universities of the South East Asian countries

c. To disseminate lectures on advances on automatic control systems and engineering applications which address the key issues in the South East Asian countries

d. To provide an opportunity for further collaboration in automatic control education & research between universities of the South East Asian countries

e. To introduce IFAC to professors, researchers and students with an aim to encourage Asian countries’ automatic control societies to become IFAC national member organizations.

The following lectures were presented:

Day 1

History of Control Theory during 1960-1990: Robust and H-infinity Control (Professor Hidenori Kimura)

Overview of Intelligent Control Systems (Professor Marzuki Bin Khalid)

Biological Control as a Promising Area of Control in Future (Professor Hidenori Kimura)

Fuzzy Control (1) (Professor Marzuki Bin Khalid)

Day 2

Fuzzy Control (2) (Professor Marzuki Bin Khalid)

Model Predictive Control (1) (Prof. Wook Hyun Kwon)

Building Control Subject to Earthquake Excitation (Professor Suchin Arunsawatwong)

Model Predictive Control (2) (Professor Wook Hyun Kwon)

Day 3

Control Engineering and Management (Professor Chang Chieh Hang)

From Fuzzy Control To Disruptive Innovation (Professor Chang Chieh Hang)

Design of Fractional Control Systems by the Method of Inequalities (Professor Suchin Arunsawatwong)

Closing address (Professor Hidenori Kimura)

In its closing remark, the organization thanked the IFAC Foundation for the opportunity of organizing such an event. It had represented the unique chance for the area to move one step ahead on unifying common interests and goals for the development of the Automatic Control field in the area.

Prof. Victor M. Alfarro Ruiz
Universidad de Costa Rica
Dr. Ramon Vilanova i Arbo
Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Spain

IFAC Regional Course

Advanced for Control

Central America

San José, Costa Rica

23 – 25 February, 2011

The IFAC Regional Course on Advanced Control for Central America was held from 23 – 25 February, 2011 at the School of Electrical Engineering of the Universidad de Costa Rica, in San Jose, Costa Rica.

On the first day, sessions started with two sets of presentations of all Central American countries. First, each representative exposed the role of automatic control, as well as the state of the art in research. As a conclusion, there is a need for action that empowers research as it is practically nonexistent at present time. There is a lack of organizational structures in addition to the high difficulty of having resources to pursue research.

In a second session, representatives who are in close touch with industry had investigated the status and level of automation in the respective countries. It turns out that there is some level of automation but it is being deployed by external companies from Europe or the USA that bring solutions.

The first lecture on the second day was given by Professor César de Prada, Universidad de Valldolid, Spain on the subject: Sugar Industry, Raising the Automation Possibilities, Advantages of Applying Modern Control Approaches, etc.

The lectures on the third day dealt with the following subjects:

Wastewater Treatment Systems and the Important Role of Instrumentation and Control, by Professor Gustafsson, Lund University.

Modern Energy Systems, specifically Hydrogen Fuel Cells and the Current State of the Art on Controlling such Systems, by Professor Jordi Riera, Polytechnic University of Catalonia, Spain.

On the last day of the course, the morning session started with the following lecture: Application of Advanced Control Techniques in Different Domains (Power Plants, Rolling Processes and Marine Applications), by Reza Katebi, Univ. of Strathclyde, Scotland.

In the concluding discussion following the Friday session, various commitments were identified. All participants agreed that their countries have poor, if any, development in research and need to progress in this respect. It is recognized that it is very difficult to progress on national level. Therefore, cooperation among the Central American countries is required. A Central American Association of Automation would have several benefits:

- Creation of a network of people with different expertise, all related to automatic control
- At graduate level, work towards a homogenization of the control courses that are offered at the different universities. This will help to establish common specialization courses, joint master courses development and possible doctoral activities.
- Organization of specific courses where some specialists could be invited
- Creation of a web page where activities, participants, national contact points, etc. are shown

In closing the remark, the organization thanked the IFAC Foundation for the opportunity of organizing such an event. It had represented the unique chance for the area to move one step ahead on unifying common interests and goals for the development of the Automatic Control field in the area.

Prof. Victor M. Alfarro Ruiz
Universidad de Costa Rica
Dr. Ramon Vilanova i Arbo
Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Spain
## FORTHCOMING EVENTS

### 2011

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<td>IFAC WORLD CONGRESS – 18th Milano 2011</td>
<td>August 28 – Sept. 02</td>
<td>Milan, Italy</td>
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<td>SAE/IFAC Intl. Symposium Future Active Safety Technology</td>
<td>September 05 – 08</td>
<td>Tokyo, Japan</td>
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<td>IFAC Workshop Embedded Guidance, Navigation and Control in Aerospace</td>
<td>February 13 – 15</td>
<td>Bangalore, India</td>
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<td>7th Conference on Mathematical Modelling Mathmod 2012</td>
<td>February 15 – 17</td>
<td>Vienna, Austria</td>
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<td>March 28 – 30</td>
<td>Brescia, Italy</td>
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<td>IFAC Conference Embedded Systems, Computational Intelligence and</td>
<td>April 03 – 05</td>
<td>Wuerzburg, Germany</td>
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<td>IFAC Symposium Information Control Problems in Manufacturing –</td>
<td>May 23 – 25</td>
<td>Bucharest, Romania</td>
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<td>IFAC Workshop Automatic Control in Offshore Oil and Gas Production</td>
<td>May 31 – June 1</td>
<td>Trondheim, Norway</td>
<td><a href="http://www.ifac-oilfield.no/">http://www.ifac-oilfield.no/</a></td>
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<td>IFAC Conference Analysis and Design of Hybrid Systems – ADHS 2012</td>
<td>June 06 – 08</td>
<td>Eindhoven, Netherlands</td>
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<td>IFAC Conference Dynamics and Control in Agriculture and Food</td>
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<td>Cancun, Mexico</td>
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<td>IFAC Workshop Time Delay Systems (IFAC-TDS-2012)</td>
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<td>American Control Conference in co-operation with IFAC –</td>
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<td>IFAC Symposium Advanced Control of Chemical Processes – ADCHEM-2012</td>
<td>July 10 – 13</td>
<td>Singapore, Singapore</td>
<td><a href="http://www.adchem2012.org/e-mail">http://www.adchem2012.org/e-mail</a>: <a href="mailto:ivan@adchem2012.org">ivan@adchem2012.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>IFAC Symposium System Identification – SYSID 2012</td>
<td>July 11 – 13</td>
<td>Brussels, Belgium</td>
<td><a href="http://www.sysid2012.org/e-mail">http://www.sysid2012.org/e-mail</a>: <a href="mailto:secretary@sysid2012.org">secretary@sysid2012.org</a></td>
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FORTHCOMING EVENTS (ctd.)

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Title</th>
<th>2012</th>
<th>Place</th>
<th>Further Information</th>
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<tr>
<td>17th Intl. Conference (cospowered by IFAC) Methods and Models in Automation and Robotics – MMMAR 2012</td>
<td>August 27 – 30</td>
<td>Miedzyzdroje, Poland</td>
<td><a href="http://not">http://not</a> yet available e-mail: not yet available</td>
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<tr>
<td>IFAC Symposium Fault Detection, Supervision and Safety for Technical Processes – SAFEPROCESS</td>
<td>August 29 – 31</td>
<td>Mexico City, Mexico</td>
<td><a href="http://safeprocess2012.unam.mx">http://safeprocess2012.unam.mx</a> e-mail: <a href="mailto:SafeProcess12@ingen.unam.mx">SafeProcess12@ingen.unam.mx</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>IFAC Symposium Power Plants and Power Systems Control</td>
<td>September 02 – 05</td>
<td>Toulouse, France</td>
<td><a href="http://www.cheapswc2012.org">http://www.cheapswc2012.org</a> e-mail: not yet available</td>
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<tr>
<td>IFAC Symposium Robot Control – SYROCO 2012</td>
<td>September 05 – 09</td>
<td>Dubrovnik, Croatia</td>
<td><a href="http://www.syroco2012.org/">http://www.syroco2012.org/</a> e-mail: <a href="mailto:syroco2012@syroco2012.org">syroco2012@syroco2012.org</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>IFAC Symposium Control in Transportation Systems – CTS’12</td>
<td>September 12 – 14</td>
<td>Sofia, Bulgaria</td>
<td><a href="http://hs27.iccs.bas.bg/">http://hs27.iccs.bas.bg/</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>IFAC Symposium Manoeuvring and Control of Marine Craft – MCMC’2012</td>
<td>September 19 – 21</td>
<td>Arenzano, Italy</td>
<td><a href="http://www.mcm2012.issia.cn.it">www.mcm2012.issia.cn.it</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>IFAC Workshop Discrete Event System Design – DeSD</td>
<td>October 01 – 04</td>
<td>Campos do Jordao, Brazil</td>
<td><a href="http://www.desdes.uz.zgora.pl">http://www.desdes.uz.zgora.pl</a> e-mail: <a href="mailto:DESDes@ite.uz.zgora.pl">DESDes@ite.uz.zgora.pl</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>IFAC Symposium Advances in Control Education</td>
<td>August 28 – 30</td>
<td>Sheffield, UK</td>
<td><a href="http://not">http://not</a> yet available e-mail: not yet available</td>
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<tr>
<td>IFAC Symposium Automatic Control in Aerospace – ACA 2013</td>
<td>September 02 – 06</td>
<td>Wuerzburg, Germany</td>
<td><a href="http://www.7.informatik.uni-wuerzburg.de">http://www.7.informatik.uni-wuerzburg.de</a> e-mail: <a href="mailto:aca2013@informatik.uni-wuerzburg.de">aca2013@informatik.uni-wuerzburg.de</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>IFAC Symposium Nonlinear Control Systems – NOLCOS</td>
<td>September 04 – 06</td>
<td>Toulouse, France</td>
<td><a href="http://not">http://not</a> yet available e-mail: not yet available</td>
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Computer Aided Systems Theory – EUROCAST 2011
13th International Conference (cospowered by IFAC)
Canary Islands, Spain, 6 – 11 February, 2011

The conference took place in the Elder Museum of Science and Technology of Las Palmas, Canary Islands, Spain from February 6-11 2011 following the approach tested in the last conferences as an international computer related Conference with a strong interdisciplinary character.

There were various specialized workshops devoted to Systems Theory and Applications, chaired by Pichler (Linz) y Moreno Diaz (Las Palmas); Computation and Simulation in Modelling Biological Systems, chaired by Ricciardi (Naples); Intelligent Information Processing, chaired by Freire (A Coruña); Traffic Behaviour, Modelling and Optimization, chaired by Galan-Moreno, Rubiño-Royo and Sánchez-Medina (Las Palmas); Computer Vision and Image Processing, chaired by Sotelo (Madrid); Mobile and Autonomous Transportation Systems, chaired by García-Rosa and De Pedro (Madrid); Computer Aided System Optimization, chaired by Huemer and Lunglmayr (Klagenfurt); Modelling and Control of Mechatronics Systems, chaired by Schlacher and Scheidt (Linz); Heurist Problem Solving, chaired by Affenzeller and Jacak (Hagenberg) and Raidl (Vienna); Model Based Systems Design, Simulation and Verification, chaired by Ceska (Brno); Biomimetic Software Systems, chaired by Braun (Sydney) and Klemppus (Wrocław) and Chaczko (Sydney); Computer Based Methods for Clinical and Academic Medicine, chaired by Klemppus (Wroclaw) and Rozenblit (Tucson); Mobile Computing Platforms and Technologies, chaired by Mayrhofer and Holzmann (Linz) and Modelling and Design of Complex Digital Systems by Signal Processing Methods, chaired by Astola (Tampere), Stankovic (Nis) and Moraga (Asturias, Dortmund); The chairpersons of the workshops, with the counselling of the International Advisory Committee, selected nearly 200 extended abstracts for oral presentation at the meeting. The two workshops with particular success were Heuristic Problem Solving and Modelling and Control of Mechatronics Systems.

There were three plenary invited speakers, Prof. Markus Schwaninger from St. Gallen “Modeling the Economic Crisis: System-Dynamics-Based Approach to Prevention,” Prof. Jerzy Rozenblit from Tucson “Models and Techniques for Computer Aided Surgical Training” and Prof. Luigi Ricciardi from Naples “Uncertainty, Probability, Functionality.”

With the additional help of the session chairpersons, a final selection has been made of papers personally presented at the conference, final full versions of which are to be included in the volume to be published by Springer Verlag, as in previous events.

Sad news is recent to Eurocast and to the international scientific community. Prof. Luigi Ricciardi passed away May 7 in Naples. We all have lost a great mathematical scientist and a friend. Eurocast is particularly indebted to him for his collaboration since 1993.

The Tables of Contents of the IFAC Journals can be found respectively at

Automatica
http://www.elsevier.com/locate/automatica

Control Engineering Practice
http://www.elsevier.com/locate/conengprac

Engineering Applications of Artificial Intelligence
http://www.elsevier.com/locate/engappai

Journal of Process Control
http://www.elsevier.com/locate/jprocont

Annual Reviews in Control
http://www.elsevier.com/locate/arcontrol

Journal on Mechatronics
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http://www.elsevier.com/locate/mechatronics