IP3 at World Summit for Information Society (WSIS) and other events

Brenda Aynsley (IP3 Chair), Stephen Ibaraki (IP3 V-P Strategic Partnerships, founding chair Global Industry Council) and Moira de Roche (Deputy Chair IP3, Vice-Chair Global Industry Council) attended the WSIS event from 25 to 29 May 2015. IFIP provided some sponsorship to the event, received international spotlight and recognition as a contributing partner. This year is the 150th anniversary of ITU so the event drew extra attention.

Brenda Aynsley delivered a compelling high-level policy statement on behalf of IFIP she said in part:

Almost nothing we do today does not involve ICTs. It is pervasive and ubiquitous, it has the power to enhance our lives and it has the ability to destroy what we value. We must continue to work hard to develop and deploy 'good ICTs'. This is not a value judgement but a necessity. Why, in the words of one of our colleagues who is a senior executive in very large organisation:

Given the reach of ICT in our lives, it is important for an ICT professional to be technically strong (in order to use the right technology for the relevant problem), ethically grounded (to ensure that technology is put to the right use), socially conscious (so that the technical solution takes into consideration elements of sustainability) and business savvy (to ensure commercial viability which is required for social prosperity and funding of new developments).

*It is only when an ICT professional is able to achieve all this **and** continues to practice these tenets can he or she be considered trustworthy and can be relied upon to deliver for business and society the promise of ICT.*

The policy statements can be found at http://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2015/Content/doc/outcomes/Policy_Statements_Booklet_WSIS2015.pdf

(Continued from page 1)

Although our thematic workshop "**Partnering for Success: Creativity and Professionalism in Delivering Trustworthy ICT"** was held in the first session of the first day, it was well attended. Several delegates whom we met during the week expressed disappointment that they were not able to attend due to late arrival. The panel for the workshop, and their topics were:

Brenda Aynsley - *Managing the risks of ICT the global profession. The undesired consequences of leaving ICT to just anybody; the role of governments in building the knowledge economy*.

Stephen Ibaraki - *The evolving dependence on ICTs in the Second Machine Age*

Moira de Roche - *IFIP IP3 developing global partnerships to deliver the gold standard of professionalism*

For more on the workshop agenda http://www.itu.int/net4/wsis/forum/2015/Agenda/Session/291 or a recording of the session http://www.itu.int/webcast/archive/wsis2015/#video. The Outcomes statement can be viewed at http://www.itu.int/webcast/archive/wsis2015/#video

IFIP IP3 attended a reception hosted by the Polish delegation to the UN on 25 May 2015 and an additional special reception hosted by platinum partner UAE later in the week. During this event, Houlin Zhao the Secretary General recognised IFIP for their contribution to WSIS. Stephen and Moira (seen in the picture on the left with the WSIS banner showing IFIP as a contributing partner) attended on behalf of IFIP IP3 and met with several influential people from industry and government

Stephen wrote several articles during the week (and then subsequently whilst in New York City, Brussels, Amsterdam, and Paris). In particular, Stephen chaired the session with the EU CIOs of the Year at the CIONET CIO CITY Summit and has a number of follow-up articles and interviews. He also met the deputy chief of UNESCO at CIO CITY, where he had the opportunity to advance conversations from the press conference at WSIS where Stephen participated and at sessions at WSIS.

For IT Managers Blog which is the largest ICT management blog feeding iTunes and Microsoft's Technet (audience reach is over 15 million) and hosted by Microsoft. The blog has been profiled in the top 10 by IT World and in the top 7 worldwide at the Microsoft MVP World Summit in a news release with Ballmer

(Continued from page 2)

WSIS and ITU:

Brenda Aynsley issues strong message at UN/ITU WSIS

World Summit on the Information Society Prize 2015 Winners

ITU Statistics confirm ICT revolution

WSIS Forum 1,700 international delegates in Geneva ahead of WSIS+10 Overall Review in New York 1 June

CIONET and CIOCity:

Success lessons, Paul Danneels, CIO, VDAB, winner of the 2015 European CIO of the Year Award

Success lessons, Jean-Luc Martino, CIO, Raiffeisen Banque, winner of the 2015 European CIO of the Year Award

Success lessons, Piera Fasoli, CIO Gruppo HERA, winner of the 2015 European CIO of the Year Award

Success lessons from Mattias Ulbrich, CIO, Audi AG, EU CIO of the Year

Journal: NYC, Pennsylvania, Geneva, Brussels-CIOCITY, Amsterdam, Paris

And for IDG :

ITU 2015 stats confirms digital disruptive revolution

10 lessons from EU CIOs of the Year and CIO CITY Summit

Stephen has and has several interviews and meetings set up with UN officials from now until September as a follow up to his activities in WSIS and New York.

Perhaps the success of our attendance at WSIS is best summed up by Brenda Aynsley "I'd have to say in brief that it has been the best for us, we are approached and engaged by others, and the Professionalism message is beginning to be recognised".

After WSIS ended Brenda Aynsley attended and participated in the **EUROPEAN CONFERENCE ON DIGITAL AND KEY ENABLING TECHNOLOGIES SKILLS** ENHANCING SKILLS FOR COMPETITIVE-NESS, GROWTH AND JOBS **1 - 2 June 2015, Brussels (**http://www.leadership2015.eu/conference/**)** where a large number of representatives of training providers, community stakeholders and EC staff attended/ This was essentially two reporting days from work that has been commissioned by the EC. Day 2 provided insights into the latest "Acquiring e-Leadership Skills - Fostering the Digital Transformation of Europe" brochure and report, available from http://leadership2015.eu/news/brochure-and-final-report/. This publication is insightful for those readers who have an interest in how European countries plan to approach the e-skills shortage and remedies that may help to overcome them.

News from Adrian Schofield, Chair IP3 Standards and Accreditation committee
IP3 SAC is pleased to announce that our South Africa member, IITPSA, will be undergoing the Accreditation visit to assess its application for recognition of its Professional Membership scheme in July 2015.

Moira de Roche, Editot, mderoche@ipthree.org

News from IFIP's Italian member AICA

President Leon Strous in Milan

On 17th June AICA was honoured by the visit of the IFIP President, Leon Strous.

The main focus of the meeting was to explore further international synergies in the areas of IT professionalism, education and competences.

Practical outcomes will follow, the work is in progress...

New faces / new roles

Francesca Rossi is a professor of computer science at the University of Padova, Italy.
Currently she is on sabbatical at Harvard with a Radcliffe fellowship.
Her research interests include constraint reasoning, preferences, multi-agent systems, computational social choice, and artificial intelligence.
Francesca is the Italian national representative in TC 12.

Norberto Patrignani is a scholar of computer ethics and of the impact of technology on society. He is an associate lecturer of ICT & Information Society at the Catholic University of Milan, and associate lecturer of Computer Ethics ad the Politechnic of Turin.
In addition to his role of national representative in TC 9, he has been appointed as Chairman of IFIP's new Domain Committee on Cloud Computing (see dedicated article).

The full list of Italian National Representatives can be found on http://www.aicanet.it/presentazione/collaborazioni-e-riconoscimenti/the-cooperation-with-ifip

Further general information is available through AICA's website

http://www.aicanet.it/presentazione/sezioni-territoriali/sezione-internazionale/aica-international-chapter

An Introduction to a New and Exciting Conference on Disaster Management ICNDEM-2015 in Bulgaria

(Yuko Murayama)

International Conference on Natural Disasters and Emergency Management (ICNDEM-2015) is the first IFIP conference on disaster management. The conference is especially focused on the various aspects and challenges of natural disasters and emergency management. ICDNEM-2015 invites experts, researchers, academicians and all others who are interested in disseminating their work. The conference establishes an academic environment that fosters the dialogue and exchange of ideas between different levels of academic, research, business and public communities.

Disaster management or emergency management has been researched mainly in terms of risk reduction and management in the past. From the information processing viewpoint, information systems for emergency management has been investigated mainly in the U.S. and Europe [1]. In another part of the globe, a Web-based disaster information sharing system, Sahana, was developed by members of the Sri Lankan IT community at the 2004 Indian Ocean earthquake and tsunami, and has been used extensively by organisations such as the Red Cross on the occasion of other disasters, such as earthquakes in China and Haiti [2].

With the recent development of social networking services (SNS) such as Facebook and Twitter, these communication tools have also been considered to be used for disaster communications [3]. However, some problems have been identified. One is the problem caused by the tools' lack of the maintenance of archive messages [4]. The other problem is that SNS have a problem of misinformation, and those challenges must especially be examined if the tools are to be used to cope with disasters [5]. Nevertheless, the use of SNS is one of the directions in which contemporary disaster information sharing is proceeding.

Despite these kinds of efforts, information systems for disaster management are not popular in the information processing area of research and development. More work has to be done in terms of information processing. Accordingly, ICDNEM 2015 is a timely conference to take new initiatives in this area of research, and we hope that many of you will choose to participate in the event.

References

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[2]   Currion, P., Silva, C. and Van de Walle, B.: Open source software for disaster management, Comm. of The ACM, Vol. 50, Issue 3, pp.61-65 (2007).

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Update on IFIP Domain Committee on Cloud Computing (DCCC)

The IFIP DCCC was appointed by the IFIP President Leon Strous in September 2014 in Wien with the aims of joining efforts from all several IFIP's Technical Committees and Working Groups on the cross do-main of Cloud Computing. This is to underline the importance of a cross-view of Cloud Computing, with an "horizontal" approach spanning all IFIP TCs and WGs, for developing a "human-centred" point of view of Cloud Computing for the public interest, including its potential impact on public authorities, SMEs and society at large (including the impact on science, as a basic underlying techniques when science moves from small to BigData). This enables IFIP to speak as a single voice on this important topic and to estab-lish collaborations with other international organizations.

The members of the committee are working with the goal of contributing to a human-centred cloud com-puting, offering the unique IFIP international perspective for the public interest. It aims at addressing cloud computing, one of the main paradigm-shifts in the history of computing and information processing, providing analysis and recommendations to all stakeholders: companies (SME and large enterprises), so-ciety (public authorities, users, scientific community), and the possible implications for the policy makers. Also, the implications from the sustainability and the environmental point of view, the possible connections at global scale, and the need for a human-centred view on Cloud Computing will be addressed.

A second meeting of the DCCC has been organized in Beijing, China on June 2nd 2015, jointly with the 7th China Cloud Computing conference.

The first deliverable of the DCCC will be an IFIP "position paper" on Cloud Computing and a "policy state-ment" to be presented at the next IFIP General Assembly in October.

Exciting News from IFIP TC6: Open Publication is Here!
Networking 2015 Proceedings Are Available Online

The IFIP (International Federation for Information Processing) Technical Committee 6 (TC6) held its spring 2015 meeting in Toulouse just before its 2015 Networking conference. At the meeting, the TC6 Chairman, Aiko Pras, announced continued progress with the TC6 open digital library: http://dl.ifip.org/ . It is now truly operational.

TC6 deals with Communication Systems and organizes a number of conferences each year, one of them being "Networking". What is exciting is that the papers from the conference are freely available online: Have a look at http://dl.ifip.org/db/conf/networking/networking2015/index.html
Freely available means that no fee is charged for access: One needs neither to be a subscriber nor to pay a per paper access fee. It is also worth pointing out that the authors did not have to pay to have their papers published either.

At many TC6 conferences a best paper award is given. For the 2015 conference, out of the over 200 papers submitted, 48 papers were selected for presentation. The winner of the best paper award this year is "Information Resilience through User-Assisted Caching in Disrup-tive Content-Centric Networks" by Vasilis Sourlas, Leandros Tassiulas, Ioannis Psaras, and George Pavlou. Interested?
Then just have a look at http://dl.ifip.org/db/conf/networking/networking2015/1570063627.pdf

The plans are to make open publishing available for all IFIP TC6 conferences.
In the meantime, enjoy the papers already available!

Harry Rudin (TC6 Swiss Special Consultant)

IT Universe in Kyiv

"IT-Universe", International IT Olympiad started in 4 countries: Azerbaidzhan Republic, Belarus Republic, Kazakhstan Republic and Ukraine on October 1st, 2014. Among participants of the Olympiad there were more than 800 students from more than 75 educational establishments. They competed for the privilege to meet in the national final. The partner of the Olympiad, Kyiv National University of Culture and Arts was the host of the final. The University has been a co-organizer of "IT-Universe" creative contests for the last 5 years.

100 students-winners of the regional stages of the Olympiad were invited to the final to participate in the following contests:

"Using cloud technologies" contest
"The best IT Security Diploma" contest
"The best Innovation Diploma" contest
"1C: Enterprise 8 Programming" contest
"Using 1C: Accounting 8" contest
"Enterprise management in ERP System 1C: Enterprise 8" contest
"Protocols, services and equipment" contest from D-Link Company
"Linux Administration" contest
"3D-graphycs. Digital video" creative contest with the theme "Let's create IT Universe together"

Mykhailo Poplavskiy, People's Deputy of Ukraine, member of Science and Education committee mentioned in his welcome speech: "In the modern conditions of development of IT society it is impossible to imagine functioning any human activity without global integrated system of information потоков exchange. Enterprises, establishments, organizations and management institutions in social and cultural area need highly qualified IT specialists. The state can only receive competitive specialists if there's close collaboration between science, education and business."

Volodymyr Buzmakov, the Head of National Org Committee of the International IT Olympiad "IT-Universe" mentioned that the "IT-Universe" Olympiad is an example of collaboration of business and Universities, this is a socially meaningful project which is meant to improve professional mastery, popularization of IT technology and ways of its effective usage in all areas.

During 2 days the University "turned" into IT Universe. Besides contests and competitions there were master classes from leading Ukrainian and international IT companies provided to the students. Business structures representatives specified that students were their future colleagues and like-minded people in common business – development of IT society.

Olena Chaikovska, Head of Computer Science of the KNUCA specified summarizing the event: "IT Olympiad as international project unites scientific community, business structures and educational establishments in different countries. It helps to modernize and integrate IT education in Ukraine to international and Europe educational environment".

Now the winners are preparing themselves to the international final and all of us look forward to "IT-Universe 2015/2016". IT-Universe is open to everyone, please feel free to join!

Joint meeting of UFI and Community CIOs Ukraine

Kyiv National University of Culture and Arts (KNUKA) hosted the annual congress of Ukrainian Federation of Informatics (UFI).

In UFI Congress June 4, 2015 delegates came from the universities of Kyiv, Kharkiv, Vinnitsa, Zaporizhzhya, Sumy. The honored guests were the IFIP General Secretary Eduard Dundler (Austria) and a representative of ECDL Foundation Jakub Christoph (Ireland).

The congress was opened by Vice President of UFI, academician of NAS of Ukraine O.V. Palagin. He welcomed the participants of the Congress, spoke about the current state and the most important achievements of informatics, the application of information technologies in all fields of modern science and practice. Alexander Palagin stressed the importance of scientific cooperation, exchange of scientific information, cooperation of scientists from different countries, including within IFIP, CEPIS and other influential international organizations.

With summary report UFI representative in IFIP General Assembly I.V. Grebennik spoke. He focused on the events that took place in UFI during the period that has elapsed since the previous Congress, highlighted major problems over which had to work in UFI during this time, stressed the meetings of the IFIP General Assembly in Poznan (September 2013) and Vienna (September 2014).

Then there was a discussion during which such talks were made: Deputy Chairman of the IT-Education UFI Committee - Assoc. Prof. T.V. Kovalyuk (NTU "KPI"), Chairman of the UFI Telecommunications Committee Prof. D.M. Piza (Zaporizhzhya National University), Eduard Dundler (IFIP), Prof. M.I. Slipchenko (Kharkiv National University of Radio Electronics), chairman of the working group UFI "Information technologies in educational and cultural environment" Assoc.Prof. O.A. Chaykovska (KNUKA). In their speeches they underlined the important role of UFI in the information society and the need for further improvement, highlighted the current problems of education, research, information technology, international cooperation, organization of scientific events supported by IFIP.

UFI Congress was continued by meeting with business representatives of leading IT companies. Cooperation programs were presented companies and enterprises with universities. Vladimir Buzmakov, chairman of the Community CIOs Ukraine, Ihor Zakalov, director of «Brain Academy», Sergey Butenko, CEO «Procom» in their speeches raised the issue of cooperation of IT business and IT education, namely:

improving the quality of training of graduates in IT, networking between business and higher education in IT, the balance between fundamental and applied skills, IT cooperation model business and IT education.

As a result of the congress was scheduled tasks Ukrainian Federation of Informatics for the coming year and ways of cooperation between business and higher education in Ukraine.

IFIP TC13 Open Symposium on HCI in Tampere

TC13 on Human-Computer Interaction has adopted the practice of arranging a joint symposium with a local community in connection of its annual business meetings. The idea is both to promote the work of TC13 and to learn about the local activities in the field.

This year the business meeting took place March 5-6 in Tampere, Finland. It was preceded on March 4th by an Open Symposium on HCI organized jointly by TC13 and SIGCHI Finland. In addition to the organizing parties, the event was generously sponsored by the University of Tampere and the Finnish Information Processing Association. It was well attended with about 40 participants, split evenly between TC13 members and people from the local community (both academia and business).

The program and links to slides from most presentations can be found at www.irit.fr/~Marco.Winckler/events/IFIPTC13meeting-FI-2015/. We experimented with a format where the presentations were not immediately followed by questions. Instead, the audience could submit questions during the presentations using the Presemo software (www.screen.io/en/presemo.html). They were projected in real time on a second screen in the auditorium and discussed in a 30-minute section at the end of each session jointly by all presenters in the session. The questions were archived and can also be found on the above website.

The busy week was completed by the PC meeting of INTERACT 2015 (www.interact2015.org), the flagship conference of TC13.

The pictures of the symposium are courtesy of Thomas Olsson.

For more information on the symposium: Marco Winckler (winckler@irit.fr) Kari-Jouko Räihä (kari-jouko.raiha@uta.fi)

20 Years of ISESS

During March 25-27,2015 ISESS – the International Symposium on Environmental Software Systems – was organised at the Bureau of Meteorology, Melbourne, Australia. More than 60 participants from around the globe discussed future ICT challenges specifically related to environmental software systems.
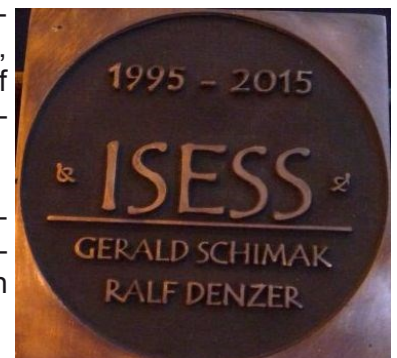
The conference was organised by WG 5.11 "Computers and Environment" in cooperation with the Bureau of Meteorology (Australia), Austrian Institute of Technology (Austria), the Environmental Informatics Group (Germany), the Masaryk University (Czech Republic) and the Australian National Computational Infrastructure.
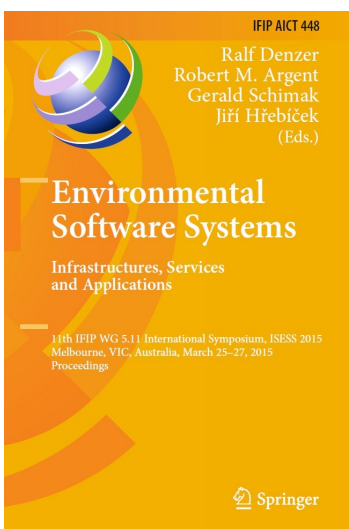

Ioannis Athanasiadis (Democritus University of Thrace, Greece) giving his keynote

The major focus of the conference was on "Infrastructures, Services and Applications" including such subtopics as: Information Systems, Information Modelling and Semantics; Decision Support Tools and Systems; Modelling and Simulation Systems; Architectures, Infrastructures, Platforms and Services; Requirements, Software Engineering and Software Tools; Analytics and Visualization; and also High Performance Computing and Big Data.

The conference was honoured by the presence and keynote of Kerry Tayler (CSIRO Digital Productivity, Canberra, Australia). She initiated and co-chaired the W3C SSN-XG which developed the widely used Semantic Sensor Network "SSN" ontology. A second keynote was given by Ioannis Athanasiadis (Democritus University of Thrace, Greece) an expert in modelling of semantics related to environmental information systems.

Besides the scientific programme two highlights framed the conference programme. First was the best paper award to 3 scientist and 3 student papers, and the second was the celebration of 20 years of ISESS and honouring of Ralf Denzer and Gerald Schimak as founders of ISESS - International Symposium on Environmental Software Systems.

Note: ISESS 2015 Proceedings have been published in electronic form as IFIP Advances in Information and Communication Technology, with Springer.

Gerald Schimak
IFIP WG5.11 chairman

DRAGON-STAR Plus meeting
successfully held in CAU international conference center

Hosted by China Agricultural University, Dragon-Star plus meeting successfully held in CAU international conference center on June 15,2015.

Prof.Daoliang Li and associate prof.Zhenbo Li from China Agricultural University, Nondas Christofilopoulos and George Panagopoulos from Head of International Cooperation, Chief Representative Kaitlin Dong , Johnny Pan and Richard Deng from Beijing Representative office Sociedade Portuguesa de Inovacao (SPI) and more than 20 dragon star project partners from Phemonoe Lab, the University of Nottingham Ningbo China(UNNC), China Science And Technology Exchange Center(CSTEC), FFG - Austrian Research Promotion Agency and other partners from Greece, Germany, France, Italy, invited to attended the event.

The one-day meeting will mainly include updates provided by WP leaders on the perspective Work Package, and additional topics related with urgent issues or coming events. All WP leaders have collected information on the status of the respective tasks and provided a quick update on the meeting. Any technical issues that required more thorough discussion have been discussed in the afternoon session.

During the meeting, Prof.Daoliang Li extending congratulations to the project partners, and also expressed his views and expectations to the target of the project. He sincerely hope this project will gain fruitful results on the communication ,cooperation, between China and the EU researchers in the near future.

Klaus Brunnstein   (Germany, * 25. May 1937 in Köln;
† 19. May 2015 in Hamburg)

On 19 May 2015, Prof. Dr. Klaus Brunnstein passed away following a short, severe illness. With Klaus Brunnstein we have lost an important scientist and visionary, who gained high national and international recognition both through his scientific work and his volunteer work. We have also lost a dear colleague and good friend whose involvement in discussions was always strong and committed. His relationship with young researchers and students in particular was constructive and encouraging. He was an example for all of us, a role model and mentor for many, including myself.

He studied physics and mathematics at the Universities of Marburg, Muenster and Hamburg from 1957 to 1964 with a diploma in 1962 and dissertation in 1966. From 1964 to 1973 he worked in Hamburg for the computer centre of DESY, the Deutsches Elektronen-Synchrotron, a national research centre that operates particle accelerators used to investigate the structure of matter. Klaus Brunnstein was co-founder of the Faculty for Informatics at the Hamburg University where he became professor for Applied Informatics in 1973. He was a polymath with an understanding of many diverse areas during his long career: High Energy Physics, Computer-Aided Instruction, Medical Informatics, Applications in Sciences, Economic Applications, Social Implications of Informatics, Data Protection, Computer and Network Security, Incident and Risk Analysis of IT Systems, Legal and Ethical Aspects of Informatics, Computers, Culture and Media. And probably more.

Klaus Brunnstein had always taken an interest in politics and public affairs and he was politically active in the early eighties: member of a political party, chair of that party in the federal state of Hamburg and even a member of the German Parliament (Bundestag) for a short while.

He played a pioneering role in Germany in the area of informatics and society as well as in the areas of privacy and ICT security. He was a champion of informational self-determination and privacy and had triggered the 1983 landmark decision on informational self-determination by The Federal Constitutional Court of Germany. In 1988 Klaus Brunnstein initiated and later maintained the Virus Test Centre at Hamburg University, one of the first centres of defence against virus and malware attacks. At the same time he was one of the first scientists who understood and dared to openly explain, that the threats from viruses and other malware were strongly related not only to criminal activities but to weak operating systems and software systems in general.

His volunteer work on national level included membership of the presidial board of the German Informatics Society (GI) from 1996 to 2001. He became a Fellow of GI in 2008.

Klaus Brunnstein had been involved with IFIP since 1975, a 40 year commitment with an active interest

and involvement to the last. Because of his preoccupation with politics and public affairs and his deep belief in the social responsibility of computer scientists and scientists in general he brought into IFIP his passion for a better society, underpinned by his knowledge of classics as well as computer engineering.

The list of his roles and contributions in IFIP is very long. A TC-9 member since 1975, founding chair of Working Group 9.2 Social accountability and computing in 1976, chair of TC-9 ICT and Society from 1990 to 1995, General Assembly representative for GI from 1999 to 2011, Trustee in 1999, Vice-President from 2000 to 2002, President from 2002 to 2007. He received many awards and recognitions for his contributions, the IFIP Silver Core in 1995, the TC-11 Kristian Beckman Award in 2009 and in 2011 he was unanimously accepted by the General Assembly as Honorary Member.

Klaus Brunnstein served on many committees, to mention but a few: Chair of the Congress Steering Committee and the Membership Society Relationship Committee, UNESCO Liaison Officer, and Member of the Task Force of the IFIP Digital Library. From 2007 to 2010 he was General Conference Chair for the IFIP World Computer Congress 2010, Chair of the IFIP 50 year Jubilee and co-editor of the IFIP 50 Year Book. Since 2010 he shared the task of IFIP Historian with Prof Heinz Zemanek.

His total commitment to IFIP has taken him into many meetings, discussions and committees always ready to advance the mission and vision of IFIP. Although retired from university a decade ago, he was still speaking and writing about his topics of interest and about his concerns, recently about electronic elections and about big data. Many of these efforts are not documented, but are part of the corporate memory of IFIP. Klaus Brunnstein will be dearly missed but his work will be carried on in IFIP, his encouragement and inspiration will continue to help us in achieving our goals.

Prof. Dr. A.V. Balakrishnan

December 4, 1922 - March 17, 2015

The IFIP community is deeply saddened by the unexpected departure of A.V. Balakrishan, who passed away at his home on March 17, 2015. He was a Distinguished Professor Emeritus and Research Professor in the Department of Electrical Engineering, while holding also for many years an appointment in the Department of Mathematics. He served in the faculty of the University of California Los Angeles (UCLA) for more than 50 years. Among other appointments, he was the chair of the Department of System Sciences at UCLA for two terms, starting in 1969.

Throughout his brilliant career, he has been recognized as an icon of modern communication theory and modern control theory, before dedicating himself, in the last several years of his prolific research activities, to the theory of continuum aero-elasticity. These efforts ultimately converged into the publication of his 2012 Springer-Verlag mega treatise entitled: *Aeroelasticity-Continuum Theory*. In it he collected the product of his own independent, physics-grounded research, building upon the masters of the past, to construct a mathematical theory of continuum aero-elasticity that would complement and substantiate the computational fluid dynamics approach.

In fact, the thread that linked all his broad scientific activities was mathematics. From his revolutionary and highly influential PhD dissertation on fractional powers of operators, written under mathematical giant Ralph Phillips in 1954 at the USC; to his contributions in both deterministic and stochastic control and communication; to his ingenious Springer Verlag book on Applied Functional Analysis of 1976 and 1981, written with focus on stability theory, optimal control theory and stochastic optimization for systems defined by operator semi-groups, one of his favorite topics; all the way to the last phase of his research activities in continuum aero-elasticity.

Of gentle and well-disposed personality, ready to help junior faculty and students, he had a very unique maverick approach to science and life in general, while keeping a strong sense of independence: of mind, of spirit, of action.Indeed, during the severe stages of the cold war, he was able to maintain scientific contacts with the former Soviet Union by inviting Soviet mathematicians such as Pontryagin and others to visit UCLA.

With Pontryagin, J.L Lions and S. Marchuk, he funded the Springer-Verlag journal *Applied Mathematics and Optimization* and gave birth to IFIP's TC7 Committee on Modeling and Optimization which was spearheaded simultaneously in Rome (Lions and Bal) and Moscow (Marchuk and Pontryagin) in 1963. Following his role as a co-founder of TC7, he wholeheartedly continued to support the international image and broad range activities of TC7 with particular contributions to WG 7.1 and WG 7.2.

Bal, as he was known to everyone, was the recipient of many outstanding awards: Life Fellow of IEEE in 1996; the NASA Public Service Medal in 1996 for his "exceptional continuous theoretical and administrative contributions in establishing the UCLA-NASA Flight Systems Research Center"; the Richard Bellman Control Heritage in 2001 - the highest professional achievement award given to control systemsengineers and scientists - for his contributions to the theory and application of automatic control from the American Automatic Control Council (AACC); the Distinguished Alumni Award in Academia from the University of Southern California (USC) Viterbi's School in 2004. He has also received honors and awards from the International Federation of Information Processing Society (1977), from NASA (1978, 1992,1995, and 1996), and, in 1980, the Guillemin Prize in recognition of the major impact that his original contributions have had in setting the research direction of communications and control.

Professor Balakrishnan also holds patents on the "modes of interconnected lattice trusses using continuum models", and "laser beam log amplitude temporal scintillation spectrum due to crosswind".

The IFIP community mourns an icon, a colleague, and a friend.

Bal is survived by his steadfastly supportive and beloved wife Sonya and five children.

On behalf of TC7

Irena Lasiecka, Vice Chair TC, Lukasz Stettner, Vice Chair TC7,

Fredi Tröltzsch, Chair TC7

Some of forthcoming IFIP events. For a full list of events, please look at http://www.ifip.org

A New Culture of Learning: Computing and Next Generations http://www.ifip2015.mii.vu.lt/	NCLCom	01/07-03/07 2015 Vilnius, LT	IFIP WG3.1 / IFIP TC3
7th IFIP International conference on New Technologies, Mobility and Security http://www.ntms-conf.org/ntms-2015/	NTMS 2015	26/07-29/07 2015 Paris, FR	IFIP TC6
The First International Competition on Computational Models of Argumentation http://argumentationcompetition.org/2015	ICCMA`15	26/07-27/07 2015 Buenos Aires, AR	IFIP WG12.1 / IFIP TC12
Artificial Intelligence for Knowledge Management http://innovation-ecosystems.eu/?page_id=104&lang=en	3rd AI4KM	27/07-31/07 2015 Buenos Aires, AR	IFIP WG12.6 / IFIP TC12
Information Security South Africa 2015 http://www.infosecsa.co.za/	ISSA 2015	12/08-14/08 2015 Johannesburg, ZA	IFIP TC11 supported
Tenth IFIP Summer School on Privacy and Identity Management – Time for a Revolution? http://ifip-summerschool.org	IFIP Summer School	17/08-21/08 2015 Edinburgh, GB	IFIP WGs 9.2, 9.5, 9.6 / 11.7, 11.4, 11.6, SIG 9.2.2
The First International Conference on Topics in Theoretical Computer Science http://ttcs.ir/	TTCS 2015	26/08-28/08 2015 Tehran, IR	IFIP WG1.8 / IFIP TC1
28th Symposium on Integrated Circuits and Systems Design (SBCCI) http://www.sbcci.org.br	SBCCI 2015	31/08-04/09 2015 Salvador, BR	IFIP WG10.5 / IFIP TC10
14th Annual IFIP Electronic Government Conference http://www.egov-conference.org	IFIP EGOV 2015	31/08-03/09 2015 Thessaloniki, GR	IFIP WG8.5 / IFIP TC8
7th Annual IFIP Electronic Participation Conference http://www.epart-conference.org	IFIP ePart 2015	31/08-03/09 2015 Thessaloniki, GR	IFIP WG8.5 / IFIP TC8
IFIP WG 12.5 International Conference on Artificial Intelligence Applications and Innovations http://sigappfr.acm.org/AIAI/	AIAI	14/09-17/09 2015 Biarritz, FR	University of Pau and Adour Countries
15th IFIP TC.13 International Conference on Human-Computer Interaction - INTERACT 2015 http://www.interact2015.org	INTERACT 2015	14/09-18/09 2015 Bamberg, DE	GI e.V.
Resilience, Reliability, Safety and Human Error in System Development http://www.irit.fr/recherches/ICS/events/conferences/workshop-IFIPWG13.5-Bamberg/	HESSD	14/09-14/09 2015 Bamberg, DE	IFIP WG13.5 / IFIP TC13
Workshop on User Experience and User-Centered Development Processes http://www.irit.fr/recherches/ICS/events/conferences/workshop-IFIPWG13.2-Bamberg/	UX-UCD	14/09-14/09 2015 Bamberg, DE	IFIP WG13.2 / IFIP TC13
Fourth European Conference on Service-Oriented and Cloud Computing http://esocc2015.unime.it	ESOCC2015	15/09-17/09 2015 Messina, IT	IFIP WG2.14 / IFIP TC2
German Conference on Artificial Intelligence 2015 http://ki2015.computational-logic.org	KI2015	21/09-25/09 2015 Dresden, DE	IFIP TC12
International Conference on Computer Safety, Reliability and Security http://safecomp2015.tudelft.nl	SAFECOMP 2015	22/09-25/09 2015 Delft, NL	SCSC, ITG, ESRA, GI, AIT, ENCRESS, ERCIM, ARTEMIS, AARIT, ÖCG, VÖSI
Functional Safety and IT Security http://safecomp2015.tudelft.nl/functional-safety-security	FS-ITS	22/09-22/09 2015 Delft, NL	IFIP WG13.5 / IFIP TC13
The 9th IFIP International conference on computer and computing technologies in Agriculture http://www.iccta.cn	CCTA2015	28/09-30/09 2015 BEIJING, CN	IFIP WG5.14 / IFIP TC5

Some of forthcoming IFIP events. For a full list of events, please look at http://www.ifip.org

IFIP International Conference on Entertainment Computing http://icec2015.info	**ICEC2015**	**30/09-02/10 2015 Trondheim, NO**	**IFIP TC14**
6th Intrenational Conference on Network of the Future http://www.network-of-the-future.org	**NoF`15**	**30/09-02/10 2015 Montreal, CA**	**IFIP WG6.2 / IFIP TC6**
Latin American Network Operations and Management Symposium http://www.lanoms.org/2015/	**LANOMS**	**01/10-03/10 2015 João Pessoa, BR**	**IFIP WG6.6 / IFIP TC6**
The 23rd IFIP World Computer Congress http://wcc-2015.org	**WCC 2015**	**04/10-07/10 2015 Daejeon, KR**	**IFIP flagship**
Wireless and Mobile Networking Conference http://www.wmnc2015.com	**WMNC**	**05/10-07/10 2015 Munich, DE**	**IFIP WG6.8 / IFIP TC6**
7th International Workshop on Reliable Networks Design and Modeling http://www.rndm.pl/2015/	**RNDM 2015**	**05/10-07/10 2015 Munich, DE**	**IFIP WG6.10 / IFIP TC6**
IFIP/IEEE International Conference on Very Large Scale Integration http://www.vlsi-soc.com	**VLSI-SoC 2015**	**05/10-07/10 2015 Daejeon, KR**	**IFIP WG10.5 / IFIP TC10**
16th Working Conference on Virtual Enterprises http://pro-ve.org	**PRO-VE 2015**	**05/10-07/10 2015 Albi, FR**	**Socolnet - Society of Collaborative Networks**
9th International Workshop on Communication Technologies for Vehicles http://www.nets4cars.eu	**Nets4Cars-2015-Fall**	**05/10-07/10 2015 Munich, DE**	**IFIP WG6.8 / IFIP TC6**
2015 International Conference on Cyberworlds http://cyberworlds-conference.org	**CW 2015**	**07/10-09/10 2015 Gotland, SE**	**IFIP WG5.10 / IFIP TC5**
History and Philosophy of Computing http://hapoc2015.di.unipi.it	**HAPOC 2015**	**08/10-11/10 2015 Pisa, IT**	**IFIP WG9.7 / IFIP TC9**
International Conference on Parallel Architectures and Compilation Techniques http://pactconf.org	**PACT 2015**	**18/10-21/10 2015 San Francisco, US**	**IFIP WG10.3 / IFIP TC10**
International Symposium on Computer Architecture and High Performance Computing http://www2.sbc.org.br	**SBAC-PAD**	**18/10-21/10 2015 Florianopolis, BR**	**IFIP WG10.3 / IFIP TC10**
11th International Conference on Network and Service Management http://www.cnsm-conf.org/2014/	**CNSM 2015**	**26/10-30/10 2015 Barcelona, ES**	**IFIP WG6.6 / IFIP TC6**
International Conference on Natural Disasters and Emergency Management http://icndem.unwe.bg	**ICNDEM 2015**	**04/11-06/11 2015 Sofia, BG**	**IFIP TC5**
8th IFIP WG 8.1 working conference on the Practice of Enterprise Modelling http://www.pros.upv.es	**PoEM 2015**	**10/11-12/11 2015 Valencia, ES**	**IFIP WG8.1 / IFIP TC8**
International Conference on Application of Information and Communication Technology and Statistics in Economy and Education http://icaictsee.unwe.bg	**ICAICTSEE 2015**	**13/11-14/11 2015 Sofia, BG**	**IFIP TC5**