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News

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Message from the new IFIP President Basie von Solms

My first attendance of an IFIP event was in 1983. Since then, I have attended many more events, became a Working Group Chair, TC Chair and Vice-President of IFIP. In August it was extreme my privilege to take over as President of IFIP for the next 3 years.

My personal thanks to outgoing President Klaus Brunnstein for his leadership and captaincy for the last 5 years.

This is an exciting time to move into this position, because of a number of very important projects and development on the IFIP agenda. These include some changes to the IFIP governance structure, the new IFIP strategy accepted by GA, the IFIP Digital Library and the IFIP professionalism program. It is clear that the period up to its 50th anniversary in 2010, will really be important and significant for IFIP. It is therefore a challenging time to be IFIP's President, but with the support and encouragement I have had from all involved, I am sure that I can add some value to the very important role that IFIP is, and will be playing in the next few years.

I have several areas on which I want to concentrate during my term. Some of these include :

- More emphasis on the relationship with Member Societies, including providing more added value to such societies, and increasing the number of societies
- Encouraging more coordination and cooperation between TCs
- Expanding IFIP's footprint amongst international bodies, agencies, NGOs and other relevant bodies
- Really establishing an open access digital library facility
- Streamlining all aspects of IFIP's operation
- Advancing other aspects as contained in IFIP's new strategy plan

At this point in time it is a pleasure to announce that outgoing President Klaus Brunnstein has agreed to oversee all activities during IFIP's Golden Jubilee Year in 2010 as Chair of AIGJY, the committee for Activities during IFIP's Golden Jubilee Year. An announcement of the International Program Chair (IPC) to be held in Brisbane in 2010, will be made soon.

I rely on the support of all Member Societies and all Technical Committees to ensure that my term benefits IFIP as much as possible.

Thanks for that support!!

Basie von Solms

WITFOR

AUGUST 22 - 24, 2007 ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA
WORLD IT FORUM 2007

WITFOR 2007 was a big success. With over 1000 participants from more than 60 countries and with 140 speakers from 45 countries, the convention centre of the UN Economic Commission for Africa was a place full of presentations and interactions. But it was not only the numbers that made it a success. The concept of WITFOR is to bring together politicians, policy-makers, researchers and practitioners from developed, emerging and developing countries with the aim of discussing together ICT policies and practical experiences. The participants in Addis Ababa had precisely this desired mixed background. Many high level government delegates and experts in the field took this unique opportunity provided by WITFOR and had lively meetings, during the plenary and parallel sessions as well as during the breaks.
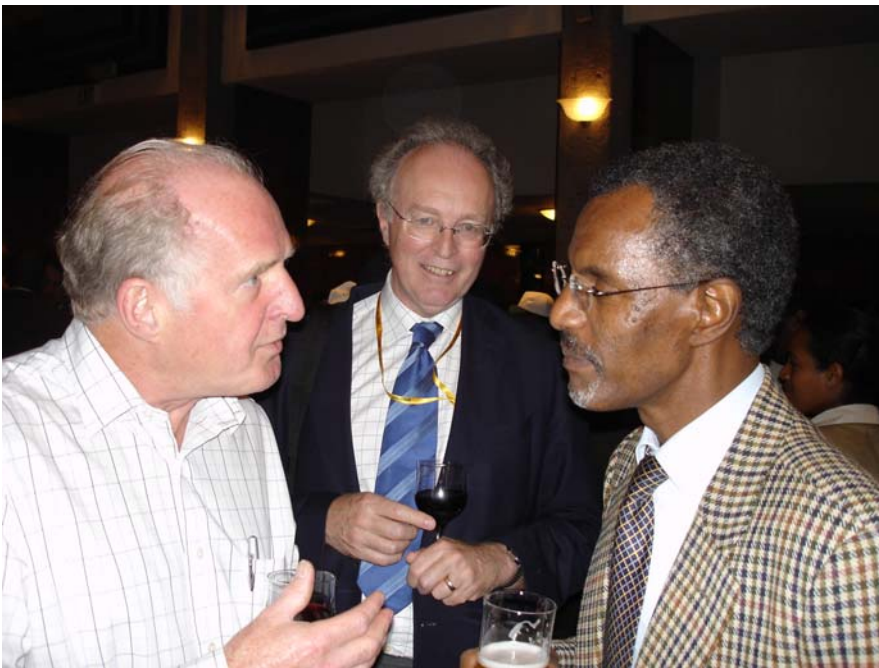
(Continued on page 2)

H.E. Mr. Meles Zenawi, Prime Minister of Ethiopia, in his opening speech underlined the importance of a forum like WITFOR for a country like Ethiopia. Bridging the ICT gap and ensuring an optimal and innovative use of ICT tools will be a decisive factor for the successful implementation of development strategies, the Prime Minister said. Following the impressive opening speech, the plenary sessions addressed issues such as major development programs ranging from the One Laptop Per Child initiative of Nicholas Negroponte to programs of the African Development Bank (as an example). The role of international organizations such as the UN Global Alliance for ICT and Development (UN-GAID), UNESCO, ITU, UN ECA and IFIP was discussed, as were practical experiences with national ICT policies from Zambia, Ethiopia, China, Vietnam, Brazil and Tunisia. A panel discussion was organized on the issue of human resource capacity building where among others the IFIP Professionalism Project was presented. Not to be forgotten as important players, the role of ICT industry with respect to ICT for development and prosperity, the main motto of the conference. Eight commissions took care of the parallel sessions with more than one hundred speakers on Agriculture, Building the Infrastructure, Eco-

nomic Opportunities, Education, Empowerment & Participation, Environment, Health and Social, Ethical & Legal Aspects. Starting to mention specific speakers would not do justice to others and mentioning all is impossible. For a quick glance, look at the final program on the website.

The cultural part naturally was not forgotten and during a very nice reception, hosted by the Minister of Foreign Affairs, a taste of Ethiopia's rich variety in food was presented, accompanied by one of the countries most famous dance and music groups. A completely different setting than the convention centrey but nevertheless again a place and moment to establish new contacts and discuss the topics of the conference.

Those who have missed WITFOR 2007 will have an opportunity to see the presentations on the website soon and there are also plans to make a compilation of the video-taped presentations. Also a publication with contributions from all the commissions will be made available. All this will be very interesting and recommended reading / viewing, but it is not the same as participating. Therefore, keep a close eye on announcements for WITFOR 2009 and make sure you don't miss that one and contribute to it.

Talking about professionalism, even during the wonderful reception. Charles Hughes, Roger Johnson and H.E. Mr. Teferra Waluwa, Minister of Capacity Building, Ethiopia.

Thanks to the huge efforts and amounts of time of the many people involved in the eight commissions, in the national organizing committee and its subcommittees, the WITFOR Secretariat, the Ethiopian IT Professionals Association (the Ethiopian member society of IFIP), the Ethiopian ICT Development Agency, Addis Ababa University and many more, we can look back at a great event and we can look forward to many follow up activities and to WITFOR 2009.

For more information, see www.witfor.org or contact Leon Strous, strous@iae.nl

IFIP General Assembly meets in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

(by Eduard Dundler)

The IFIP General Assembly, comprising one representative from each of the 53 national Full Member Societies and the Chairs of the Technical Committees met in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia end of August following WITFOR 2007. Prof Dr Klaus Brunnstein (Germany) presided at his last GA as President. In his report he noted that under his presidency IFIP has enriched its scope and visibility by the successful organization of three World Computer Congresses (Montreal, Toulouse and Santiago de Chile) with excellent technical content and last but not least by development and organization of WITFOR conference series in developing countries. He said that IFIP has improved its position as adviser to UNESCO in aspects related to ICTs, by presenting results of WITFOR 2003 / 2005 to UN World Summits on Information Society 2003 (Geneva) / 2005 (Tunis) and to UNESCO General Conference 2003 (Paris).

On the other hand Mr Brunnstein addressed several problems still waiting for being solved, including communication between Member Societies and IFIP, as well as cooperation between Technical Committees and Working Groups and Member Societies.

General Assembly accepted a strategy document for the future of IFIP with revised strategic aims and objectives. The next step will be to appoint IFIP volunteers to take over and drive the proposed projects as consequence of the objectives. In order to help to implement the new strategy, General Assembly approved the proposal to restructure IFIP's Council, which includes dedicated portfolios to Vice Presidents and Councillors (replacing Trustees).

Among the actions taken by the General Assembly were the election of Mr Gerald Engel (US-IEEE) and Mr Leon Strous (Netherlands) as Vice Presidents; the election of Councillors: Ms Chrisanthi Avgerou (TC9), Messrs Mike Hinchey (TC1), Raymond Morel (Switzerland), Ramon Puigjaner (Spain) and Lalit Sawhney (India); the election of Mr Chris Avram (Australia) as Treasurer and the reelection of Mr Roger Johnson as Secretary.

An important action for General Assembly was the decision where the World Computer Conference 2010 (in connection with the celebration of IFIP's 50th anniversary) should take place. After excellent presentations of all bidders General Assembly voted for Brisbane (Australia). The President thanked the other bidders – Beijing, Cape Town and Delhi – for their interest.

Finance Committee reported a larger than expected surplus of €117K (including €112K from Return on Assets) for 2006. General Assembly approved adjustments for 2007 and 2008 budget regarding expenditure for Digital Library, Professionalism Task Force and for WITFOR website.

General Assembly accepted the proposal from the Australian Computer Society (ACS) to establish a Digital Library with free access to IFIP proceedings for an initial period beginning as soon as possible and ending at the end of 2008. The costs for this initial period (2007 / 2008) will be covered by IFIP.

At the end of the meeting the outgoing President Dr Klaus Brunnstein handed over IFIP's Presidency to President Elect Prof Basie von Solms (South Africa) and wished him every success for his presidency.

IFIP Board will meet next March in the Netherlands, and General Assembly will meet in September in Milan, Italy, following WCC 2008.

General Assembly approves a change in the governance structure of IFIP

(by Basie von Solms)

The General Assembly meeting in Addis Ababa in August 2007, approved the establishment of the IFIP Board, a body which replaces the present IFIP Council.

The IFIP Board is constituted as follows :

The President: **Basie von Solms**

Past President (till August 2008): **Klaus Brunnstein**

The 4 Vice-Presidents:
Gerald Engel
Jean-Claude Laprie
Niko Schlamberger
Leon Strous

The Secretary: **Roger Johnson**

The Treasurer (till August 2008): **Dipak Khakhar**

The Treasurer-Elect: **Chris Avram**

4 Councilors elected by GA:
Declan Brady
Arrigo Frisiani
Raymond Morel
Joe Turner

1 Councilor nominated by the Member Societies and elected by GA (The MS representative on the Board): **Ramon Puigjaner**

1 Councilor nominated by the Technical Assembly and elected by GA (The TC representative on the Board): **Mike Hinchey**

2 Councilors nominated by the President and elected by GA:
Chrisanthi Avgerou
Lalit Sawhney

The term Councilor used in the new Board structure, replaces the existing IFIP term of Trustee.

As all Standing Committee Chairpersons will be appointed from members of the Board, it means that all management stakeholders will be present at a Board meeting, simplifying communication and coordination.

The Board will meet twice a year, in February/March and in August (before GA).

Because TCs now have direct representation on the Board, the traditional TA meeting in February/March also falls away. However, TA will have a full elect-ronic meeting before the February/March meeting so that proper feedback can be provided at the Board meeting.

Where relevant, Standing Committees will also have electronic meetings before Board meeting – for the same reasons as stated above.

The full list of the appointed SC Chairpersons, will be provided in the next IFIP Newsletter.

The present Executive Board (EB) will now become the Executive Committee of the Board (ECB), and will consist of the first 6 entries in the list above.

I am convinced that this new structure will streamline the operations of IFIP, and integrate well with the new IFIP strategy as approved by GA.

The necessary Statutes and Bylaws changes to support this change, was also approved by GA. (Unfortunately, although approved by the present EB and Council, the change of 'Council' to 'Board' was mistakenly omitted from the proposals submitted to GA. That will be corrected at the next GA meeting).

World Computer Congress 2010

After excellent presentations of all bidders and intensive discussion General Assembly voted for Brisbane (Australia) to host the World Computer Congress (WCC) 2010. The Australian bid has been presented by Mr Mark Lloyd on behalf of the Australian bid team of Australian Computer Society (ACS).

An important part of this congress will be the celebration of IFIP's 50th anniversary. Work on these remarkable milestones will start immediately.

International Professional Practice Programme – I3P

(by Charles Hughes)

The International Professional Practice Programme, I3P, took another major step forward at General Assembly in Addis Ababa with overwhelming support for the programme and the Task Force report.

Since commencing work in January the IFIP Task Force, headed up by the British Computer Society (BCS) with the Australian Computer Society (ACS) and the Canadian Information Processing Society (CIPS), and supported by the Computer Society of South Africa and the IEEE Computer Society, has outlined plans for a vigorous programme of activity to promote professionalism worldwide to:

improve the ability of business and the wider community to exploit the potential of information and communication technologies effectively and consistently

build professionalism in IT to the level at which it exists in other areas of professional activity

develop a profession which is respected and valued for the contribution it makes to the exploitation and application of IT for the benefit of all

The programme will establish an international grouping to speak globally about issues relating to the profession and ensure the voice of the ICT practitioner is clearly and powerfully expressed. The programme also offers an unrivalled opportunity for IFIP to raise substantially its global profile.

The potential benefits of the programme are many but will include the derivation of a common language to describe professional skills and competences and a standard means of measurement. A mechanism for the independent assurance of quality will complement these standards. These are powerful developments which will provide significant advantages to practitioners, employers and commercial organisations buying and selling professional skills. There are benefits in terms of status, career development and mobility and the opportunity to belong to a global movement.

A significant deliverable from I3P will be an international professional standard for IT practitioners. Provisionally called International IT Professional (IITP) it will be used to accredit the professional qualifications awarded by member societies to indicate they achieve international standards. Of the 800,000 IT professionals belonging to societies affiliated to IFIP it is hoped that within a few years 100,000 will be recognised as IITPs through member societies.

I3P will be really successful if it enjoys the strong support of major influencers, academic institutions and IT employers. Endorsements will be very welcome but most of all we seek practical assistance and resource to augment the largely part-time leadership and support available from IFIP, ACS, BCS, CIPS and others. Exploratory discussions have commenced with a number of globally influential corporations and

at General Assembly I was delighted to announce that Microsoft is the first corporation to declare its support for I3P with a commitment to contribute resource and expertise. Michael Alcock, Microsoft's Director of Content, Community and Evangelism, says "Software vendors care deeply about increased recognition and rewards for the IT professional. Microsoft is committed to sharing its research into the IT profession and providing other resources to the IFIP Task Force".

I3P offers a unique opportunity to develop our profession and provide an international focus and sense of belonging for IT practitioners. The programme is in its early phases and there is a long road ahead but by the concerted efforts of many people IFIP can make a real and lasting difference.

ACS Launches Unique Insurance Policy for Members in Australia

The ACS (Australian Computer Society announced the launch of a unique **ICT Liability Insurance Package** for its members. The package is designed to protect the personal assets of ICT professionals against damages awarded against them by a court or resulting from an approved negotiated settlement.

The **ACS ICT Liability Insurance Package** covers ACS members undertaking ICT activities, work or voluntary, where they might not otherwise be expressly covered by insurance and includes free legal defence costs cover to employee members where there is no cover available from their employer, free cover for voluntary and unpaid ICT Consultancy work for employee members, free cover for billed ICT consulting work up to a value of $10,000 per annum, professional indemnity of up to $1,000,000 or any one claim and $10,000,000 in aggregate, public liability of $5,000,000 each and every claim, products liability $5,000,000 blanket cover in the aggregate as well as 1,000 excess for each and every claim, inclusive of costs.

ACS President Philip Argy said the ICT Liability Insurance Package is a

professional risk management tool for ACS members, combining the benefits of a Professional Indemnity policy with a Broadform Liability insurance policy.

"An ICT consultant, like anyone else who gives to another person advice and/or services of a skilful character according to an established discipline, is regarded as a 'professional'. As a 'professional', the law requires you to exercise your skill at the appropriate level expected of your profession. The ACS believes that developing universal standards of professionalism for ICT workers will help to mitigate risk and assure foreign markets of our industry's quality. But professionals are also only human and mistakes do happen. Any financial loss arising from a mistake or failure may result in an award in favour of a third party.However, in the more than 40 year history of the ACS we have an impeccable record of no claims being upheld against a professional grade ACS member. This track record, which proves our claim that professionalism is the best risk mitigation strategy, is also the foundation for our application to the Professional Standards Council for a

ACS President Philip Argy

scheme that will give even greater peace of mind to both professional grade ACS members and also to anyone for whom they perform work," said Mr Argy.

For those member who bill over $10,000, there is a significant reduction on standard liability insurance premiums and offers ACS members more comprehensive policy coverage. Further information about the policy is available at www.acs.org.au/ictinsurance

ACS reveals ICT's Carbon Footprint - Calls for energy star rating for IT products as part of a green ICT industry policy

The Australian Computer Society (ACS) delivered Australia's first ICT carbon emissions audit, revealing that ICT use by Australian businesses generated 7.94 million tonnes (Mt) of carbon dioxide in 2005, which is the close equivalent to the civil aviation and the metal production Industries. Responding to the findings, the ACS said the technology industry is in a unique position to demonstrate leadership by reduc-

ing its footprint, as well as leading the way in identifying and creating innovative green solutions for other industries and Australian consumers. Key findings of the Report include:

• ICT usage by Australian businesses represents 2.84% of the emissions attributed to the stationary energy component (energy consumed excluding transportation),

and 1.52% of the total national emissions, which totalled 522.2 Mt CO2[1]

• Total estimated emissions from stationary energy combustion are equal to 53.5% of net national emissions.

• One of the biggest power consumption demands comes from em-

(Continued from page 6)

ployees' personal workstation equipment, which is generally in an operational state for 12 hours per day, and in many cases is not switched off.

ICT's carbon emissions are comparable in size to other industries such as civil aviation, which is estimated to generate 0.97% of total carbon emissions and metal production (mostly iron and steel), which accounts for around 2.3% of total carbon emissions and the cement industry at around 1%.

In response to the audit's findings, the ACS today launches a **Policy Statement for Green ICT**, which includes suggestions on initiatives ICT professionals, government, consumers and ICT manufacturers can take to help reduce carbon dioxide emissions attributable to the use of ICT equipment. The key recommendations include extending the Energy Rating System to ICT equipment for domestic and commercial use, leverage innovative technologies to reduce power consumption, purchase carbon offsets to help offset the emissions being produced by ICT equipment used in the office and look at replacing conventional telephone equipment with soft IP phone clients on computer workstations.

The ACS Policy Statement for Green ICT can be found at: www.acs.org.au/acs_policies/ docs/2007/greenictpolicy.pdf

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ACS Spotlights Australia's Top ICT Professionals : ACS awards seven new Fellowships for 2007

The ACS (Australian Computer Society) announced the election of seven individual memberships to Fellowships. ACS President, Philip Argy explains, "We are proud to announce the election of seven members to Fellows, as all have made outstanding contributions to the broader ICT industry. The Fellowships highlight to the general community the high level of talented ICT professionals that we have in Australia and with three out of the seven Fellowships being awarded to women, this demonstrates the crucial role women play in the success of Australia's ICT industry. They include:

Dr David Mackay – VIC
Dr David Mackay has made a distinguished contribution to the field of ICT education and research in Australia. His contributions include the development of a unique co-operative model of industry-based learning that has been operating since 2000, in which students combine teaching from Deakin's two Schools of IT and IS with industry placements.

Dr Elspeth McKay – VIC
Elspeth McKay has made a distinguished contribution to the field of ICT education and open learning systems. She has achieved substantive results in learning models and practice appropriate to e-Learning requirements, focussing most recently on the overarching importance of context-driven human-computer interaction (HCI) processes for effective learning.

Professor Zbigniew Michaelewicz - SA
In his short time in Australia since 2004, Professor Zbigniew Michaelewicz has had an impact nationally on both the IT industry and IT education with his innovation in the teaching and application of Adaptive Business Intelligence (ABI).

Professor Robyn Owens – WA
Professor Robyn Owens has made a distinguished contribution to the linkage between academia and ICT within Western Australia. Currently, she is the Pro Vice-Chancellor (Research & Research Training) at the University of Western Australia.

Mr Anthony J Rosser – WA
Tony Rosser has made a distinguished contribution to integrating ICT development within industry and government in WA. He is a founding member of the ICT Industry Collaboration Centre. Mr Rosser was a principal author for the highly recognised APT systems methodology which is in use worldwide.

Dr Jan Seruga - NSW
Dr Jan Seruga has made a significant contribution throughout his professional career especially in the promotion and development of education and research in information and communications technology. He has developed particular expertise in the specialisation of network security that is of great relevance to the current government agenda of national security as well as to the wider business community.

Dr Leonilla O Warne - ACT
Dr Warne has made a distinguished contribution in ICT through her research work with DSTO. Dr Warne has a substantial publication record and is recognised as an expert in the area of social learning in organisations, knowledge management and network-centric warfare. Dr Warne continues her tireless work promoting women in ICT and also spent a much of her time mentoring up and coming ICT professionals.

Further information can be downloaded via www.acs.org.au/ news/010607.htm

IFIP AGORA Initiative: Results in 2007

The IFIP AGORA Initiative on Lifelong Learning aims to implement a dynamic methodology for initiating a network of cooperation projects on Lifelong Learning with many different stakeholders. It is providing a methodical concept of action where contextual local efforts are connected to each other and contribute to generic common knowledge about Lifelong Learning in a synergetic manner.

Lifelong Learning is about how workers and students use and develop their knowledge work competence supported by e-competence. LLL action plans take account of each LLL situation as a contextual situation with a specific level of access to ICT and a specific level of e-readiness and e-maturity of the national society and or organisation, dependent on the cultural, social and economical context. LLL is about new ways of learning and sharing of knowledge supported by ICT. LLL when supported by effective action plans is a means to close the digital divide. To enable the implementation of lifelong learning situations two models have been developed: one for step-wise implementation of learning organisations (Seoul 2.0 Model), the other for the implementation of LLL environments within a given context (Addis Ababa 2.0 Model).

AGORA Seoul 2.0 Model

The *Seoul 2.0 Model for Learning Organisations* is a practical analysis tool that helps managers and others to implement organisations that are sustainable in the knowledge society. The model is generic and applicable in different, specific contexts. The IFIP Agora Seoul seminar in 2007 (South-Korea) was used to test the effectiveness of the model for developed coun-

tries (http://www.ifip-tc3.net; choose: The IFIP Agora Initiative; choose: Agora in 2007).

The model is based on earlier work in IFIP on ICT curricula and educational change (Anderson & van Weert, 2002) and on practical research conducted at SEM (Geneva, Switzerland), SATW, ICT Commission (Switzerland) and Hogeschool Utrecht, Chair ICT and higher Education (The Netherlands). Also use is made of the work of the European Foundation for Quality Management (EFQM)

AGORA Addis Ababa 2.0 Model

The *Addis Ababa 2.0 Model for Learning Environments* is a practical analysis tool for educational designers to build and implement a lifelong learning environment. The model helps to design the environment on four levels: *personal, project, organisational and societal level.* It takes account of the local organisational and societal context and results in an action plan suiting the particular situation. The Addis Abba 2.0 Model is integrated with the Seoul 2.0 Model. The IFIP Agora Addis Ababa seminar preceding WITFOR 2007 (Ethiopia) was used to test the effectiveness of

the model for developing countries (http://www.ifip-tc3.net; choose: The IFIP Agora Initiative; choose: Agora in 2007).

AGORA methodical concept of action: Local studios and generic Atelier

In the Agora Initiative local LLL projects focus on specific objects and processes in specific contexts. The Initiative tries to study these projects as integral and meaningful phenomena allowing context-free generalizations. The projects provide contextual pilot implementations of LLL, called 'Studios'. Context specific knowledge is developed in these Studios, but shared in an 'Atelier' linking the Studios. The 'Atelier'-function generates generic knowledge based on the experiences in studios. This generic knowledge can then be applied in the local 'Studio's' where Lifelong Learning pilot implementations are realised. Thus, the generic educational Lifelong Learning model developed in the Atelier will be evaluated and improved in a process of critical review of the pilot implementations and concurrently improve practice of Lifelong Learning in the local Studios.

IFIP AGORA Initiative on Lifelong Learning 2007 Seminar
Date : June 4-5, 2007   Venue : Pai Chai Building Seoul, South Korea
Sponsored by KIST, CELL, Exit Technologies, Univer..., C...

BCS 50th Anniversary

On 31st May 1957, the British Computer Society was formed as a single national body to represent UK Computing, with Maurice Wilkes as the first President. By the end of 1957, seven BCS branches had been formed and 22 study groups (later called specialist groups) had been set up by members, The first BCS annual conference held in 1959 was so popular that closed-circuit TV coverage to an overflow room had to be laid on. The event included 60 delegates from outside the UK, a sign of the international standing it was gaining.

In 1959 BCS's membership had leapt to 1,900 at a time when all the business computers installed (or on order) in the UK only totalled 109.

The BCS contributed to national bodies such as the British Standards Institution (BSI) and provided expert opinion on a range of issues. When the United Nations ran the first International Conference on Information Professing through UNESCO in Paris 1959, BCS President Maurice Wilkes was invited to be the opening speaker. The event led to the formation of IFIP, the International Federation for Information Processing, in 1960, with the BCS invited to be the UK representative.

Over the following decades, BCS membership and groups grew steadily to reflect the increasing numbers of IT professionals and the diversity of computing-related subjects that needed representation.

BCS became a nominated body of the Engineering council, a Chartered Engineering Institution, and became licensed to award Chartered Scientist status.

BCS influence at the highest levels has become greater than ever. In 2004, President Wendy Hall was appointed by Prime minister Tony Blair to his advisory body on technology, engineering and science, and BCS Director, Mike Rodd, was asked to join a Home Office group advising on whether technology was being exploited effectively.
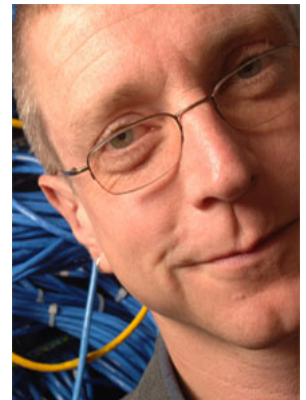
Bill Gates, Microsoft founder, was awarded BCS Distinguished Fellow in 2005, and said "I'm an honorary member of the BCS and proud of that. Microsoft if also pleased to be working with the BCS on its very important Professionalism in IT programme.

To celebrate 50 years, the BCS 50th Anniversary Programme was launched in January 2007. There have been high-profile speakers, such as Sir Tim Berners-Lee, a BCS Fellow, who gave the Lovelace lecture in May 2007. The official 50th Anniversary dinner on 31st May was held at St. James's Palace London in the presence of our patron HRH Duke of Kent.

Looking to the future there were new ventures with academic establishments such as the sponsorship of attendance bursaries for ITiCSE 2007, and Professor Dave Cliff, FBCS, University of Bristol will deliver a lecture entitled "The Best is yet to come" to invited school children at Newcastle, Leeds, Southampton and Bristol Universities during the Autumn 2007.

"IT in 2057" a short film of predictions looking to the future by leading IT professionals in their subject area, was sponsored by the BCS IT Management Forum and premiered in September.

Professor Dave Cliff

Over the last 50 years, there have been unimaginable developments in IT. Now with over 50,000 members BCS remains a stable focal point for discussion, information, and increasingly, the passionate promotion of professionalism.

This article has been written using excerpts from the BCS publication: "*The British Computer Society: Celebrating 50 Years*". www.bcs.org/books/50thhistorybook

First IFIP 8.6 Working Conference Announcement
22-24 October 2008. Madrid, Spain

The next IFIP 8.6 Working Conference entitled *"Open IT-based innovation. Moving towards cooperative IT transfer and knowledge diffusion"*, will take place in Madrid (Spain) on 22-24 October 2008.

Nowadays, in a world where knowledge generation is widely distributed, organizations have to rely on cooperative models of knowledge flow to facilitate innovation. In this context, the next WG 8.6 Conference will focus on open collaborative technology transfer and diffusion strategies to handle IT based innovation.

The Conference scope includes new theories, tools and best practices to support technology transfer and diffusion in the IT domain. Opportunities associated with advanced IT tools to facilitate the use of open cooperative models will also be considered. Some specific topics of interest are:
Cooperative IT transfer and diffusion theory and practice.
Public-private partnerships for IT transfer and diffusion.
The role of national, regional and local authorities in cooperative diffusion theory.
Public procurement of IT services and other demand-side policies as catalysts for open innovation.
IT tools to support cooperative technology transfer and diffusion in the context of Web 2.0 and future 3.0.
Case studies for specific technologies, geographical contexts, or organisations related to IT or IT-supported fields.
Open innovation models for public and private organizations.
IP rights management, IT standards.
Open business models in non-IT sectors.
Products, services and new ventures based on IT open innovation.
Innovating with customers.

The Conference agenda will include several panels with invited speakers from industry and academia to discuss Practical Corporate Experiences in Open Technology Transfer and to explore Open Innovation in the Telecommunications Industry. Moreover, a Doctoral Consortium will be held during the Conference to provide PhD students with the opportunity of discussing their research work with experienced scholars.

Papers are due **1 March 2008**.
Further information and contact data are available at the Conference website http://ifip8-6.ceditec.etsit.upm.es.

The Conference Organizing Committee wish to encourage submissions and look forward to welcoming you to Madrid next autumn!

El Prado Museum

Retiro Park

Gran Vía Street

IFIP WG 9.5 International Working Conference on Virtualy and Society: Massive Virtual Communities

1st and 2nd of July, 2008
Leuphana University Lueneburg, Germany

Scope & Theme

Prominently within the gaming community, but also within other communities on the internet, very huge virtual communities begin to evolve. In games, an average number of people that is comparable to a smaller city is online at the same time, thus forming a proper society. People share their pictures and videos, they meet and date in virtual communities. In Second Life, even big companies start virtual branches to enhance customer relations. It is likely that this phenomenon will become even more significant in the near future for gaming, for business and private purposes, maybe even for administrative and political functions.

It is already obvious that those massive virtual communities will have a substantial impact on society, economics, art, and -- last but not least -- technology. The workshop will bring together experts of that field to collect insights on a emerging major subject.

Program committee
Mike Chiasson (Lancaster University, GB)
Wolfgang Coy (Humboldt University Berlin, D)
Kevin Crowston (Syracuse University, USA)
Velvet Landingham (Kent State University Geauga, USA)
Niki Panteli (University of Bath, UK)
Anthony Papargyris (Athens University of Economics and Business, GR)
Claus Pias (University of Vienna, A)
Bryan K. Temple (Glasgow Caledonian University, UK)
Martin Warnke (Leuphana University Lueneburg, D)

Organizers: Niki Panteli, Martin Warnke

Date: July 1st and 2nd, 2008

Place: Leuphana University of Lueneburg, Germany

The papers are published online as preprints. A book publication is intended.

Important dates
Deadline for full papers (previously unpublished material, not exceeding 12 pages single spaced, pdf format: January 15th, 2008, to be sent by e-mail to
warnke@uni-lueneburg.de

Notification of acceptance: March 15th, 2008

Conference fee: 100 Euro including an evening program at the first day of the conference and coffee breaks

Venue
Lueneburg is a smaller city in northern Germany, near Hamburg. It has a lively university and a medieval city centre. The famous Lueneburg heath is not far away.
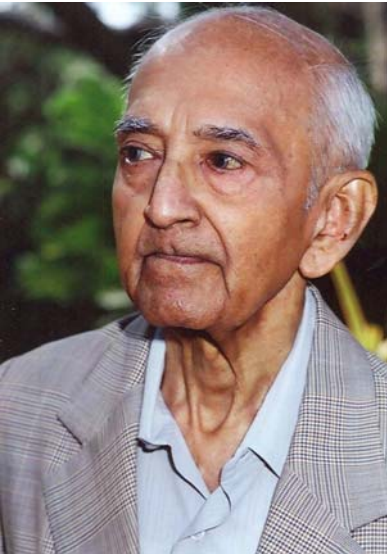There will be a limited number of hotel rooms at special rates when booked early.

Details on http://www.leuphana.de/ifip_mass_virt_comm/accomodation.html

How to get there

Lueneburg University (53°13'48.36"N 10°24'6.45"E) is situated in northern Germany. The nearest airports are Hamburg Airport Fuhlsbuettel, Hannover Airport, and Luebeck Airport Blankensee. It is easy to reach Lüneburg by train from all of these airports. You can reach Lueneburg from Berlin via Hamburg or Hannover by train. The distance from Hamburg is appr. half an hour by train or car, from Hannover appr. one hour. Visit Deutsche Bahn for travel information.

Dr R. Narasimhan

Dr. R. Narasimhan, a doyen of Indian Computer Science Research, played various major roles in the development of computing in India. He studied telecommunications engineering at the Guindy Engg College, Madras, and earned a B. E. He followed this up with a Master's at Caltech and a Ph D at Indiana.

He returned to India in 1959 to join the fine group of scientists being put together by Homi Bhabha at the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR). The first full-scale, general purpose, electronic digital computer designed and built in India, the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research Automatic Calculator (TIFRAC), was completed in 1959 and commissioned in February 1960. The computer was designed by R. Narasimhan and built by a team of six people. TIFRAC was named in 1962, when India's first Prime Minister, Jawaharlal Nehru, inaugurated the new buildings of the TIFR.

Narasimhan spent the major part of his academic life at TIFR, building up the institute's Computer Science and Technology Lab. He was instrumental in setting up the Computer Society of India (CSI) and served as its first President. He also played a key role in the setting of the then Computer Maintenance Corporation (CMC), which later became a full-fledged computer company under Narasimhan's Chairmanship.

His work on syntactic pattern recognition, carried out when he was spending a few years at Illinois, was seminal. He worked for over a decade on the modeling of natural language behavior and on the evolution of language behavior. He authored several widely read books.

Prof Narasimhan established contact with IFIP by deputing observers to the IFIP events and also liaised with Prof Kelly Gotlieb, Chairman, Admissions Committee regarding India's admission as a full member of IFIP. After due consideration of the logistical and technological aspects for active participation, approval of membership was accorded to India as the 34th Member of IFIP in 1973 and Prof R. Narasimhan served as the First Indian GA Representative for the years 1974 to 1983. Narasimhan was also elected Trustee on the IFIP Council (1975-1983), Chairman Admissions Committee (1976-78) and elected specially by the General assembly as an Individual Member (1983-87). As Chairman, Admissions Committee, Narasimhan brought into focus drawing the Developing World into IFIP to broaden benefits of Technology to these countries. It was to the credit of Prof Bennet from Australia and Prof Narasimhan to bring about the SEARCC Conference in Singapore in 1976 with sponsorship from IFIP, UNESCO, IBI, CSI and SCSD. The SEARCC confederation joined IFIP in 1982, and this was the forerunner of entry of other Regional Confederations as CLEI and WARCS in 1984, and African Regional Computer Confederation(1991). Narasimhan as Trustee, organised the IFIP Council Meeting in Bombay in Feb 1978 and the IFIP President, Prof. Bobbilier also joined the CSI Annual Conference at Calcutta. The concept of State of art seminars as an activity for the benefit of the DC's was promoted by Narasimhan through the TCs and the first initiatives with TC-2 with Mason and Meersman (Formal Description of Programming Concepts, 1992), TC-3 (National Issues on Computer Education, 1987), TC-6, TC-8 (Impact of Information Systems in DCs, 1988), TC-9 (Informatics 81), TC-11 are the outcome. Such Seminars enabled a wider participation from Professionals in the DCs and contributed to the National recognition of benefits of participation in IFIP. Another long-term interest of Prof. Narasimhan was in IT policy issues vis a vis developing countries. He raised the question of "how IT can be deployed to serve the bulk of the population?" He encouraged his colleagues to work on nationally relevant problems in the area of computer science and technology. He was an informal advisor to the Govt of India in various aspects of computer science and technology over a couple of decades.

He served as a father figure to his younger colleagues at TIFR who went on to create the National Center for Software Technology (now a part of C-DAC), and served as the Chairman of the NCST Governing Council for a few terms.

His post-retirement years were spent as a Fellow of his beloved CMC, where he carried on his scientific work till the end of his life.

He was seriously ill from August 2007 and passed away peacefully on the morning of September 3, 2007.

S. Ramani / Maj. Gen. A. Balasubramanian (Retd.)

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

2nd IFIP Working Conference on Computer Aided Innovation mansour.ashtiani@delphi.com	2nd IFIP WC-CAI	8-9.10.2007 Brighton, MI, USA
IFIP/ACM Latin America Networking Conference 2007 http://lanc2007.upv.es/	LANC 2007	10-11.10.2007 San José, CR
The 7th IFIP Conference on e-Business, e-Services and e-Society http://i3e.ccnu.edu.cn/	I3E 2007	10-12.10.2007 Wuhan, CN
IFIP Central and East-European Conference on Software Engineering Techniques 2007 http://www.cee-set.org/nawrocki@put.poznan.pl	IFIP CEE-SET 2007	10-12.10.2007 Poznan, PL
First IFIP WG11.6 Working Conference on Policies & Research in Identity Management http://privare.fbk.eur.nl/idman07/moosterhout@rsm.nl	IDMAN'07	11-12.10.2007 Rotterdam, NL
5th Intl. Workshop for Technical, Economic and Legal Aspects of Business Models for Virtual Goods http://www.virtualgoods.org	VG 2007	11-13.10.2007 Koblenz, DE
The IFIP TC8 International Conference on Research and Practical Issues of Enterprise Information Systems http://www.confenis.org	CONFENIS'07	14-16.10.2007 Beijing, CN
15th IFIP International Conference on Very Large Scale Integration – System on a Chip http://www.vlsisoc2007.gatech.edu/mooney@ece.gatech.edu	VLSI-SoC 2007	15-17.10.2007 Atlanta, GA, USA
Intl. Conf. on Robotics, Vision, Information, and Signal Processing 2007 http://ee.eng.usm.my/rovisp07/	ROVISP'07	28-30.11.2007 Penang, MY
3rd International Week on Management of Networks and Services http://www.manweek.org	MANWEEK 2007	29.10.-2.11.2007 San José, USA
4th International Conference on Virtual Storytelling 2007 http://www.virtualstorytelling.com/VS2007/donikian@irisa.fr	ICVS'07	5-7.12.2007 Saint Malo, FR
IFIP/IIASA/GAMM Workshop on Coping with Uncertainty (CwU) Robust Decisions http://www.iiasa.ac.at/~marek/wrksp/cwu07/org.html	CwU	10-12.12.2007 Laxenburg, AT
The 2007 IFIP Intl. Conf. on Embedded and Ubiquitous Computing http://www.cs.ccu.edu.tw/~shiwulo/euc07/	EUC 2007	17-20.12.2007 Taipei, TW
7th International Heinz Nixdorf Symposium juergen.gausemeier@hni.upb.de	HNI 2008	20-21.1.2008 Paderborn, DE
The 4th International Precision Assembly Seminar http://www.ipas2008.org	IPAS'2008	10-13.2.2008 Chamonix, FR
21st Intl. Conf. on Architecture of Computing Systems http://arcs08.inf.tu-dresden.de/	ARCS 2008	25-28.2.2008 Dresden, DE
12th Conference on Optical Network Design and Modelling http://www.ondm2008.cat/xmasip@ac.upc.edu	ONDM 2008	12-14.3.2008 Vilanova i la Geltru, ES
7th Intl. Symposium on Software Composition http://www.2008.software-composition.org/	SC 2008	29-30.3.2008 Budapest, HU
6th Intl. Symposium on Modeling and Optimization in Mobile, Ad Hoc, and Wireless Networks http://wiopt.org/	WiOpt 2008	31.3.-4.4.2008 Berlin, DE

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Event	Abbr.	Date/Location
The 17th International World Wide Web Conference http://www2008.org/	**WWW 2008**	**21-25.4.2008** Beijing, CN
2008 Next Generation Internet Networks 4th Euro NGI Conf. on Next Generation Internet Networks http://www.kt.agh.edu.pl/ngi2008	**NGI 2008**	**28-30.4.2008** Krakow, PL
8th IFIP Intl. Conf. on Information Technology for Balanced Automation Systems http://www.basysconference.org	**BASYS'08**	**23-24.6.2008** Porto, PT
IFIP WG8.2 Work. Conf. on IT & Inst. Change in the Service Economy: Challenges and Possibilities for the 21st Century	**IFIP WG8.2 2008**	**10-13.8.2008** Toronto, CA
20th IFIP World Computer Congress 2008 http://www.wcc2008.org/	**WCC 2008**	**7-10.9.2008** Milano, IT
5th IFIP Intl. Conf. on Theoretical Computer Science – in conjunction with WCC 2008 http://www.wcc2008.org/	**TCS 2008**	**7-10.9.2008** Milano, IT
WG2.13 Conference on Open Source Systems – in conjunction with WCC 2008 http://www.wcc2008.org/	**OSS 2008**	**7-10.9.2008** Milano, IT
ED-L2L, Learning to live in the knowledge society – in conjunction with WCC 2008 http://ulearn.itd.cnr.it/wcc08/	**ED-L2L**	**7-10.9.2008** Milano, IT
Advances in Information Systems: Research, Education, and Practice – in conjunction with WCC 2008 http://www3.dsi.uminho.pt/wcc2008/archive.htm	**ISREP**	**7-10.9.2008** Milano, IT
3rd TC9/WG9.7 and TC3 Intl. Conf. on History of Computing and Education - in conjunction with WCC 2008 http://www.wcc2008.org/	**HCE3**	**7-10.9.2008** Milano, IT
IFIP Working Conference on Distributed and Parallel Embedded Systems – in conjunction with WCC 2008http://www.cs.up.ac.za/cs/jbishop/WCC2008/dipes08-cfp1.rtf	**DIPES 2008**	**8-10.9.2008** Milano, IT
2nd IFIP Conference on Biologically Inspired Collaborative Computing – in conjunction with WCC 2008 http://www.cs.up.ac.za/cs/jbishop/WCC2008/bicc2008cfp.pdf	**BICC 2008**	**7-10.9.2008** Milano, IT
23rd International Information Security Conference – in conjunction with WCC 2008 http://sec2008.dti.unimi.it/	**SEC 2008**	**7-10.9.2008** Milano, IT
IFIP International Conference on Artificial Intelligence – in conjunction with WCC 2008 http://www.ifiptc12.org/ifipai2008	**AI 2008**	**7-10.9.2008** Milano, IT
1st IFIP Entertainment Computing Symposium "New Frontiers for Entertainment Computing" – in conjunction with WCC 2008 http://www.cs.up.ac.za/cs/jbishop/WCC2008/ECS2008-CfP.doc	**ECS 2008**	**7-10.9.2008** Milano, IT
The 27th Intl. Conf. on Computer Safety, Reliability and Security http://www.safecomp2008.org/	**SAFECOMP 2008**	**22-25.9.2008** Newcastle upon Tyne, UK
8th Intl. Conference on Human Choice and Computers http://www.hcc8.org/	**HCC8**	**25-27.9.2008** Pretoria, ZA
IFIP 8.6 2008 Conference: Open IT-based innovation. Moving towards cooperative IT transfer and knowledge diffusion. http://ifip8-6.ceditec.etsit.upm.es/	**IFIP 8.6 2008**	**22-24.10.2008** Madrid, ES