

tems calculations and he had raised questions which we have been sluggish or not courageous enough to ponder on.

Kalman was taken by his father from the torments of the Second World War to the US when he was 13, where he studied with the pioneers of the mathematical-technical elite on the Western coast and it was here that his radiant and permanently creating talent was discovered. His genius was recognised in the US and he had received the most prestigious awards there as well as in other countries with highly developed scientific culture. His being awarded by these prizes is the yardstick of their real value. He was an honorary member of numerous academies and received honorary doctorates from high ranking universities.



Rudolf Kalman (photo courtesy of ETHZ)

Kalman always stressed his Hungarian origins and he spoke his native Hungarian brilliantly without any accent. After the cold war period he rendered ever more frequent visits to Hungary where he had the honorary membership of our Academy of Sciences but he could feel at home especially at SZTAKI, the Institute of Computer Science and Control in Budapest, where he had his own studio and where he kept a substantial portion of his Zurich library.

He was a genuine intellectual who was open in his thinking, and had an amazing knowledge of and interest in music. When at home he regularly attended concert and opera performances and made us astound by his immense knowledge in history and especially cultural history.

The big gift in Kalman's life was his wife, a lady of high culture and origins in Greek Alexandria. From his big family, one of his daughters volunteered in works of charity in Hungary for about a year. Recently he wrote us that he was preparing for his next visit in autumn to Hungary. From now, we can only take care of the stimulating heritage he had left us by his genius.

Submitted by Tibor Vamos (HU), IFAC Advisor  
IFAC President 1981-1984

**This Newsletter may be reproduced in whole or in part. We encourage electronic distribution of this Newsletter, as well as reprinting in national and local automatic control periodicals. Acknowledgement to IFAC would be appreciated.**

## SSSC and TDS 2016 22-24 June 2016 Istanbul, Turkey

The 6th Symposium on System Structure and Control (SSSC 2016) and 13th Workshop on Time Delay Systems (TDS 2016) were held jointly in Istanbul, Turkey. This was the second time these two meetings of the IFAC Technical Committee 2.2, Linear Systems, were held jointly in parallel sessions, the first one was in Grenoble in 2013. The meetings were co-sponsored by several TCs of the CC1 and CC2. The venue was Taskisla Building of Istanbul Technical University (ITU) near Taksim Square. Parallel to the 2016 edition of these two events, Turkish NMO, hosted the IFAC Council and Related Meetings at the nearby Intercontinental Hotel. Hence, some of the Council and Related Meetings participants had the chance to attend SSSC 2016 & TDS 2016.



Bosphorus cruise

The IPC chair of SSSC 2016 was Anna Maria Perdon (Italy) and the IPC Co-Chairs of TDS 2016 were Tomas Vyhldal (Czech Republic) and Wim Michiels (Belgium). The compositions of the IPCs were such that membership was comprised of members from more than 20 different countries. There were a total of 102 paper submissions to these meetings, including invited session papers (each event had one invited session), and after a careful evaluation by the IPCs, 77 papers were accepted and presented. The corresponding authors of the accepted SSSC 2016 papers were from 14 different countries, with the top three countries being Turkey (8), UK (7) and France (5). Similarly, for TDS 2016, corresponding authors were from 14 different countries, top three countries being Turkey (14), USA (10) and France and Germany (tied with 6 contributions each). This diversity resulted in the productive exchange of ideas during and after the presentations. As usual, all presented papers will appear in IFAC-PapersOnline, maintained by Elsevier. There are separate proceedings for SSSC 2016 and TDS 2016. The editor of the joint events was Ibrahim Beklan Küçükdemiral from Yıldız Technical University, Istanbul.

The 2016 edition of this joint event opened up with a special session, consisting of two papers dedicated to the memory of Uwe Helmke, who was a major contributor in the field. We learned sadly that he passed away on 1 March 2016 suddenly at the age of 63. He had a paper submitted and accepted to TDS 2016; in the special session Helmke's co-author, Erik Verriest, presented their latest work. Additionally,

the special session included an invited presentation by Paul Fuhrmann, who was a long-time friend and collaborator of Uwe Helmke.

For the joint SSSC 2016 & TDS 2016 the total number of participants was 92 and 29 of them were from Turkey. Students comprised about 1/3 of the participants. As for the social events, the National Organization Committee arranged a Welcome Reception on June 22 at the courtyard of the historic Taskisla building. The highlight of the social events was the Banquet Dinner in the evening of June 23 on a cruise boat sailing on the Bosphorus separating Asia and Europe. The social events and reduced registration fee for students were made possible by the industrial sponsors: ASELSAN, Mitsubishi Electric, Beckhoff, Acrome, AVL, as well as ITU and Elsevier.

Submitted by Hitay Özbay, NOC Chair  
Ali Fuat Ergenç, NOC Co-Chair

## IFAC Council and Related Meetings 22-24 June 2016 Istanbul, Turkey

The IFAC Council and Related Meetings took place in Istanbul, Turkey from 22-24 June 2016 and were held in conjunction with SSSC and TDS 2016. Committee and task force meetings were held 22-23 June, with the Council meeting taking place on 24 June. On behalf of the entire IFAC family we would like to thank the Turkish NMO for their hospitality and wonderful organization of the meetings and the facilities, as well as the Bosphorus boat cruise. Special recognition is extended to Profs. Ibrahim Eksin, M. Turan Söylemez, Hitay Özbay, and Ali Fuat Ergenç for their super organization.

The IFAC Council is responsible to the General Assembly for the management of the Federation. It receives its mandate from the General Assembly and reports to it on the state of the Federation not less frequently than at each Triennial Congress.

From time to time task forces are appointed to work on particular topics of significance for the IFAC community. Stephen Kahne, chair of the IFAC History Task Force reported to the Council concerning the IFAC 60-related work of his task force. An updateable e-book is being written and will be made available via the IFAC website. Francoise Lamnabhi-Lagarrigue and the Research Agenda Task Force is working on the report "Systems and Control Science for the Future of Humanity" to bring about further awareness of control engineering issues for interested persons and agencies.

continued on page 4

continued from page 3

Major Medals and Fellow Awards were presented by the Awards Chair and the Fellow Selection Chair and voted on in closed Council.

The IFAC Fellows are listed on page 2 of this Newsletter. The list of names, as well as the citations, can also be found on the IFAC website under <http://www.ifac-control.org/awards/ifac-fellows>. The Major Awards have been published on the IFAC website under <http://www.ifac-control.org/awards/major-awards>, are listed below, and will be explored in more depth in a forthcoming issue of this Newsletter.

Winners of the Major Awards that were voted on in Istanbul are listed below:

**Quazza Medal Winner 2017**  
**Roger Brockett (US)**

**Nichols Medal Winner 2017**  
**Lennart Ljung (SE)**

**Manfred Thoma Winner 2017 (NEW)**  
**Ming Cao (NL)**

**Industrial Achievement Award 2017**  
**Francesco Borrelli, David Germann, Dejan Kihass, Daniel Pachner, Jaroslav Pekar, Greg Stewart (Honeywell team, CA, CZ, US)**

One further agenda item was the second round of bids for the 2023 IFAC World Congress. Australia, Japan, and the US presented their final bids. Japan was chosen by the Council to host the 2023 IFAC World Congress in Yokohama (Tokyo area), with Hajime Asama to serve as the IFAC president for the 2020-2023 triennium.

Hajime Asama received his B.S., M.S., and Dr. Eng. in Engineering from the University of Tokyo, in 1982, 1984 and 1989, respectively. He was a Research Scientist, etc. in RIKEN Japan from 1986 to 2002. He became a professor of RACE, the University of Tokyo in 2002, and a professor of the School of Engineering, the University of Tokyo since 2009. He received RSJ Distinguished Service Award in 2013, JSME Robotics and Mechatronics Award in 2009, etc.



**Hajime Asama**

He was the vice-president of the Robotics Society of Japan in 2011-2012. an AdCom member of IEEE Robotics and Automation Society from 2007-2009, the president of International Society for Intelligent Autonomous Systems in 2014, and an associate editor of Control Engineering Practice, Journal of Robotics and Au-

tonomous Systems, and Journal of Field Robotics. He is a Fellow of JSME and RSJ.

Hajime Asama has held several roles in IFAC over the years. He is currently the chair of CC7 (Transportation and Vehicles Systems), and also serves as the chair of the IFAC committee in the Science Council of Japan, the Japanese IFAC National Member Organization (NMO). In addition, Asama served as TC 7.5 (Intelligent Autonomous Vehicles) chair from 2002 to 2005. His main research interests are distributed autonomous robotic systems, smart spaces, service engineering, embodied brain systems, service robotics including robot technology for disaster response and decommissioning of nuclear power plants.

Industry issues were also discussed. Tariq Samad, chair of the Pilot Industry Committee, reported concerning recommendations to help increase industrial participation in IFAC activities, as industrial participation has been declining over the past several years. Constitutional amendments will be voted on at the General Assembly in Toulouse that, if passed, would add a nonvoting industry representative to the IFAC Council as well as a Technical Board Vice-Chair for Industry Activities. This new position would be a TB vice-chair with no CC oversight duties in addition to the two current TB vice chair positions who oversee assigned CCs and participate in the event evaluation process.

Updates about the upcoming World Congresses in Toulouse, FR (2017) and Berlin, DE (2020) were provided. Dimitri Peaucelle, NOC chair, presented information about IFAC 2017. A Twitter presence with the hashtag #IFAC2017 has been established. A dedicated web page has been created to describe the demonstrator paper category and encourage such submissions in categories such as education, sessions with drones, robotics, and autonomous cars, to give a few examples.)

Frank Allgöwer, IFAC President-Elect, presented information about the plans for IFAC 2020, which is scheduled to take place from 13-17 July 2020. There has been a local venue change and the Congress is now planned to be held at ESTREL Congress and Convention Centre. Klaus Janschek will serve as the Coordination Chair.

The next IFAC Council meeting will take place before the opening ceremony (as is IFAC tradition) at the IFAC World Congress in Toulouse, France on 9 July 2017.

## IFAC Blog and Social Media Update

The IFAC Blog, which is moderated by IFAC Social Media Editor Jakob Stoustrup, has now been online for almost a year. The blog is an additional means of connecting to and communicating with the control engineering community worldwide.

Here is a list with some examples of topics that have been discussed by the IFAC Blog contributors:

- Water, a global and human issue for tomorrow, a necessary and vital automation
- Can automation and automatic control be a game?
- Technology paving the way for the next generation of process control
- Translate or die!
- Is there Pervasive Control out there? "Sustainable" control of offshore wind turbines
- Wireless Automation and Industrial Internet
- Controlling an autonomous refuse handling system
- Autonomous road vehicles: a modern challenge for robust control
- A Modern Control Education
- Traffic Management in the Era of Vehicle Automation and Communication Systems (VACS) - Do you give up control?
- Automation and Bionic Technologies to Assist an Ageing Population
- Consumer-driven automation for smartening the grid

Each blog article is referenced on the IFAC Twitter account and the IFAC Facebook account and generally they have stimulated very good discussions on those social media outlets. The web analytics show that the IFAC Blog and related discussions on social media tend to engage users from outside the conventional IFAC community and thus offers the potential for IFAC to reach new audiences.

If you are interested in contributing to the IFAC Blog, please send an email to the IFAC Social Media Liaison, Prof. Jakob Stoustrup, [jakob@es.aau.dk](mailto:jakob@es.aau.dk). Manuscripts should be short and written for a general audience, as well as suited for stimulating discussion in social media.

IFAC encourages all members of our community with Facebook and/or Twitter accounts to "Like" or "Tweet" the IFAC Blog articles. This is easy: just go to the IFAC Blog at [blog.ifac-control.org](http://blog.ifac-control.org) and click on the Facebook/Twitter icons at the end of each article.

Submitted by Jakob Stoustrup, IFAC Social Media Editor

**Check out IFAC's YouTube channel for new and historical IFAC video materials!**

**The link to the YouTube channel can be accessed via the IFAC website [www.ifac-control.org](http://www.ifac-control.org)**