IFIP 2010 WORLD COMPUTER CONGRESS

The 21st IFIP World Computer Congress will be held at the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre in Australia from 20th to 23rd September, 2010. This year the Congress is organized around eight streams, which reflect main areas of information technology research and applications: Deliver IT, Govern IT, Learn IT, Play IT, Sustain IT, Treat IT, Trust IT and Value IT. IFIP Technical Committees are organizing seventeen conferences, which will be included in these streams. In parallel the Australian Computer Society is organizing a series of parallel partner events, which will be part of the streams too.

The IFIP community is strongly encouraged to participate in this high profile Congress, which will provide an update on the state-of-the-art and research directions in the distinct information technology areas. The Congress will give also opportunities to network with other colleagues from all over the world during the session breaks and social events. About 330 papers, which have been strictly reviewed by experts and selected by the International Program Committee, will be presented in the seventeen co-located IFIP conferences. Some of these conferences are established conferences that run every year and some others represent emerging areas of information technology. Additionally, the Congress will have six keynote speakers, who are prominent personalities in the areas of computers and communications, and that will present their speeches in plenary sessions. A set of panels for discussing different aspects of information technology will also take place, both at the plenary and conference levels.

Please consult all the details on the IFIP 2010 WCC at the Congress web page: http://www.wcc2010.org/
**Computer Society Zimbabwe (CSZ) joins IP3**

IP3 is pleased to announce that the Computer Society of Zimbabwe (CSZ) has joined IP3. This is the second African Society to join a growing number of IP3 Members from the Americas, Asia, Europe and Oceania.

“CSZ’s commitment to IP3 demonstrates that Professionalism in ICT is recognised as essential even in smaller, developing economies” Greg Lane, IP3 Chair, remarked “This substantiates our belief that a professional ICT workforce can be used to improve the economy of a developing nation. IP3 has plans to establish a Developing Nations Committee later this year: this committee will investigate ways of fast-tracking developing countries toward IP3 accreditation without compromising IP3’s internationally recognized standards”.

“CSZ is very pleased to join IP3, which will ultimately provide the incentive for CSZ professional members to continuously enhance their ICT knowledge and experience, based on an international standard” Geoff Fairall, Executive Director, CSZ added.

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**IP3 One day conference at World Computer Congress in Brisbane**

IP3 will host a one day conference on Wednesday 22 September 2010, during the Congress.

The IP3 event will begin immediately after the tea break on Wednesday, and topics will include:

- IP3 - International Professional Practice Partnership. Transforming Professional Practice. Who are we? What are we doing? What next?
- IP3 and Talent development – with focus on solutions for senior levels in IT
- Regional perspectives on ICT Professionalism
- Seoul Accord & ICT Education
- Formulation of a declaration on Professionalism in IT.

Our hope is that the declaration will articulate the commitment to professionalism of organisations and societies from around the world.

During the event, Stephen Ibaraki will be interviewing several people to get their views on Professionalism in ICT and what they suggest can be done to further this cause. Stephen is a world-renowned, multiple award winning, international authority and expert in all areas of IT. (visit [www.stephenibaraki.com](http://www.stephenibaraki.com) for more).

We hope to see you at the event, and to talk with many of you during the Congress.

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**IP3 at CIO Forum in China**

Roger Hart, IP3’s Interim Executive Officer has been invited to speak about IP3 at the CIO Forum to be held in Shanghai at the beginning of July. He is delighted to have the opportunity to talk about Professionalism in ICT with CIO’s from government departments and industry in China and around the world. Apart from the presentation, Roger will be able to engage one-on-one with several of the delegates during the course of the event. This is a perfect opportunity to boost commitment to IP3 in the region.

We will report back on this in the next IFIP news.
IFIP Auerbach Award

The International Federation for Information Processing (IFIP) announced that the Isaac L Auerbach Award¹ has been awarded to professor Dipak Khakhar from the University of Lund, Sweden. Professor Khakhar has been the Swedish representative to the General Assembly of IFIP since 1989, and has served as Honorary Treasurer of IFIP for eight years.

IFIP has decided to make this Award to professor Khakhar specifically for his initiative to start the World Information Technology Forum (WITFOR)² which in only eight years time has developed into an international event that has added immense value to IFIP and the use of information and communication technologies in developing countries.

IFIP salutes professor Khakhar for his vision to have started this initiative in IFIP.

During his term as Honorary Treasurer, professor Khakhar also tabled some other initiatives which are presently under consideration in IFIP.

The Award will be handed over to professor Khakhar during the Gala Dinner of the IFIP World Computer Congress WCC2010 in Brisbane, Australia on 22 September 2010.

For more information contact Mr Eduard Dundler (eduard.dundler@ifip.org)

¹ The best known of the IFIP awards is the Isaac L. Auerbach Award, named in memory of the founder of IFIP, which in principle is presented every other year (at the IFIP World Computer Congresses) for extraordinary support of IFIP in its mission. The Auerbach Award is specifically for services rendered to IFIP, on behalf of IFIP and/or in furthering the position of IFIP on different levels. The recipient will be a person who, over a long period, has been intimately involved with the workings of IFIP, and has played a significant role in expanding the vision of IFIP. The recipient will be more than a person who had served as General Assembly member or Chair of a Technical Committee for a number of years. Even having served in an elected position on the Executive Committee (previously the Executive Board) or the Board (previously the Council) of IFIP does not in itself make such a person necessarily a candidate. The recipient must have added value over and above the normal service to IFIP.

² Recognizing the developmental opportunities offered by digital technologies and the need for developing countries and developed countries to collaborate to exploit such opportunities, IFIP undertakes a number of activities under the umbrella of the World Information Technology Forum (WITFOR).

The overall goal of WITFOR is to assist developing countries in developing and implementing sustainable strategies for the application of ICT and to share experiences that will help to bridge the digital divide and improve the quality of life. The specific goals are:

To share and discuss experiences in drafting and implementing ICT policies;
To share and discuss experiences in initiating and implementing ICT projects;
To present and discuss research concerning the overall goal.

The activities are guided by the World Summit on the Information Society's (WSIS) Plan of Action in order to help achieving the UN Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

(Continued on page 4)
(Continued from page 3)

WITFOR examines different initiatives on effective, context sensitive development and use of ICT applications, access to quality relevant information, and the development of “fair use principles”. In particular the WITFOR events are intended to:

- help put ICT-enabled development initiatives on the agenda of different organizations, governmental bodies, and groups currently involved in information and communications technologies;
- work with different groups to ensure that the issue of ICT diffusion and sustainable effective use is on the agenda of senior policy makers and political leaders;
- assist international organizations and donor agencies to build issues of the spread of ICTs and access to information into their loan and funding programs with adequate financial and institutional allocations;
- develop guidelines on these issues and advise governments, to formulate and follow the best strategy for the use of ICT in order to achieve global ICT-equity.

The bi-annual main WITFOR conference is organized by the International Federation for Information Processing (IFIP) and hosted by the government of an emerging or developing country. The concept of WITFOR is to bring together politicians, policymakers, researchers and practitioners from developed, emerging and developing countries with the aim of discussing together ICT policies and practical experiences. The forum will address issues critical to developing countries, such as the application of ICT in fighting HIV/Aids and other health issues, poverty, access to education, empowerment, environment, as well as social, ethical, and legal consequences of IT. It will also showcase leading edge ICT solutions for economic development, as well as best practice projects from around the world.

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**IP3: Calling all IFIP Member Societies**

IP3 are refreshing the website, and the new version will have a lot of member-generated content. We request that all IFIP member societies put out a request to their members asking interested professionals to contact us.

Blog categories include, but are not limited to:

- **Professionalism - what does it mean?**
- **The IT Talent Gap**
- **Business and IT Strategic Alignment**
- **The Need for an IT Talent Strategy**

Potential contributors should send their names, a brief resume, and their initial contribution to admin@ipthree.org

We are also looking for video segments to place on our YouTube page. If you have any suitable material, or wish to have some assistance on how to go about creating a suitable video, please write to the e-mail address above. We will be drafting “interview questions” in the coming days, and will gladly share these with you.

We really hope to stimulate ongoing interaction between IP3 and IFIP member societies, so please encourage your members to visit the website at www.ipthree.org, and to contribute and engage in the conversation about professionalism in ICT.

Moira de Roche, IP3 Marketing Director, editor@ipthree.org
ACS Computer Professional (CP) Program Update

At the time of going to print, the ACS counted over 1500 suitably qualified members conferred with CP status. Congratulations to all our newly conferred CPs; we applaud your dedication to the profession. The Certified Professional (CP) program recognises your contribution to the ICT profession. An ACS Certified Professional (CP) - a recognised ICT professional:

- Delivers a recognisable higher standard of ICT
- Is globally recognised
- Demonstrates a commitment to stay on top of technological developments.

The ACS rolled out the CP program in mid-February to MACS, Senior Members and Fellows of the ACS. This internal rollout in February formed phase one of a three-phase strategy which culminates in an external launch of the CP later this year. With this external launch, members will see the CP status receive media attention and CP as a certification designation will become more valued and recognised. Our mission reflects the global mission of the IP3, the development of the global IT profession and also positions CP as a recognised and sought after benchmark. As Steve Godbee, CIO of IBM Australia New Zealand and now an ACS Certified Professional (CP) states: “Finally IT practitioners can be recognised both nationally and internationally as true professionals, through meeting and maintaining a global standard of IT professionalism. This is a major step forward for the IT profession and something we should all capitalise on.”

For more information on how to become a CP go to www.acs.org.au/cp.

The Charles Todd Oration

(18 August in Sydney, Australia, Mike Quigley, CEO NBN Co.)

The Telecommunications Society of the Australia (TSA) has been hosting the Charles Todd Oration in Sydney for some fifteen years to provide current eminent leaders in our industry to reflect on the achievements of one of Australia’s leading telecommunications pioneers Charles Todd. Charles Todd was charged with the task of building an overland telegraph from Pt Augusta North of Adelaide through to Darwin ready to carry the ‘rapid dot-dash’ of the telegraph, equivalent to 2-3 bit/s in current terms. In the 1870s the new telegraph was emerging then as ‘the key to prosperity and wealth’ across the still separate colonies and the link between Port Augusta and Darwin is regarded as an outstanding example of engineering in Australia.

As the inaugural CEO of NBN Co, Mike Quigley joins an illustrious group of Australian and International figures who have delivered the Charles Todd Oration. In the past the Charles Todd Oration has featured a number of significant industry figures including Professor Fred Hilmer prior to him becoming CEO of Fairfax Holdings, Frank Blount as CEO of Telstra, Dr David Skellern who is now head of NICTA in Australia, Therese Gattung as CEO of Telecom New Zealand, and Professor Don Lamberton of ANU, on the economics of telecommunications.

NBN Co’s role is to realise the Australian Government’s vision for the development of a next generation NBN. It is to provide the infrastructure that will allow wholesale and retail service providers to deliver advanced digital services to the nation. This multi-billion dollar investment will be the single largest nation building infrastructure project in Australian history. This year’s oration appropriately features the National Broadband Network, in keeping with the recognition by Sir Charles Todd of the importance of telecommunications to delivering prosperity and wealth.

As a result of the calibre of the speakers, and the material delivered at the Charles Todd Orations, they have become a significant part of the history of Telecommunications discourse in Aus-
AICA ANNUAL CONGRESS 2010
L’Aquila

Historic city. Digital city. Future city

The city of L’Aquila rebuilding as an experimental laboratory
for the national scientific and industrial ICT communities

September 29-30 and October 1, 2010 - University of L’Aquila

The AICA Annual Congress is in Italy a national cultural event during which the Academic, Industrial and ICT User communities can meet to exchange ideas and experiences. Participants are offered analyses and scenarios on new developments in ICT technology and their applications in all sectors, from research to industrial applications to management of public affairs.

The 48th AICA Congress is organized jointly with the University of L’Aquila, the city where the devastating earthquake of 6 April 2009 has severely affected much of the city and surrounding towns as well as most of the basic infrastructure, the network of water, gas and electricity.

Just over one year after the earthquake and the exit from the emergency phase, begins a process of reconstruction in all sectors, of which ICT can be the driving force facilitator.

AICA Congress will offer an overview and current perspective on the issues outlined in the call for papers comparing researchers, teachers, professionals and managers coming from universities, research institutions, companies and public administration involved in the ICT sector.

For more information: http://aica2010.univaq.it, www.aicanet.it

PRO-VE’10 - Collaborative Networks for a Sustainable World

The 2010 edition of PRO-VE, main annual conference of the IFIP WG 5.5, highlights the Collaboration Science as a key mean to achieve sustainable development. The challenges of sustainability clearly call for a wide collaboration among multiple stakeholders as the required changes exceed the capacity and capability of individual actors. The necessity and added-value of collaborative networks has been recognized in many fields where these synergies are leading to novel approaches and solutions.

Ecole des Mines, PRO-VE’10 host organization
Please register on www.pro-ve.org
Early Registration till September 10, 2010

This year, PRO-VE’2010 received a record number of submissions (over 200). A very rich technical program is currently under preparation, covering all key aspects of the Science & engineering of Collabora-
The socio-technical gap is the great divide between social activities such as coordination which researchers and practitioners aim to support and those that are actually supported by technology. Research in Decision Making theory and DSS shows that this gap is due in part to technical limitations and in part to the complexity of the contexts where decision support must be provided. Thus, DSS researchers face important questions concerned with the encapsulation of complex social aspects of managerial decision making, as well as with the representation of key human cognitive mechanisms, such as intuition and insight, within computational systems.

Two important keynotes are planned for this event:

- “Ambient Intelligence and Collaborative Networks”, Dr Juan Carlos Augusto, Ireland
- “Toward a Physical Internet: A Global SustainabilityFocused on Collaborative Networking Initiative”, Pr Benoit Montreuil, Canada

Proceedings of PRO-VE’10 will be published by Springer and indexed in the ISI Web of Science.

Special issues of journals will be published with selected papers:
- J. Computer Integrated Manufacturing
- J. Production Planning and Control

The Annual Meeting of WG 5.5 will take place on the occasion of PRO-VE’10.

We will be very pleased to welcome you in Saint Etienne for PRO-VE’10!

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**DSS 2010: the 15th IFIP WG8.3 International Conference on DSS**

(Bridging the socio-technical gap in DSS - Challenges for the next decade)

Faculty of Sciences, University of Lisbon, Portugal

July 7-10, 2010

http://dss2010.di.fc.ul.pt

The socio-technical gap is the great divide between social activities such as coordination which researchers and practitioners aim to support and those that are actually supported by technology. Research in Decision Making theory and DSS shows that this gap is due in part to technical limitations and in part to the complexity of the contexts where decision support must be provided. Thus, DSS researchers face important questions concerned with the encapsulation of complex social aspects of managerial decision making, as well as with the representation of key human cognitive mechanisms, such as intuition and insight, within computational systems.


Keynotes:

- Omar El Sawy, Univ. of Southern California, Los Angeles, USA
  
  **Decision Support and Environmental Scanning: Past Hallucinations, Present Realities, and Future Prospects**

- Liam Bannon, Univ. of Limerick, Ireland
  
  **Making sense of human actors: Beyond homo economicus**

- Carlos Bana e Costa, Technical Univ. of Lisbon and LSE, Portugal and UK
  
  **Decision Conferencing with Multicriteria Decision Support Systems**

(Continued from page 6)
Panels:

Business Intelligence Research: Status and Strategies
Healthcare IT and Decision Support

Conference Chair: Ana Respicio, University of Lisbon, Portugal
Program Committee Chairs: Ana Respicio, University of Lisbon, Portugal; Frederic Adam, University College Cork, Ireland; Gloria Phillips-Wren, Loyola University Maryland, USA.
Doctoral Consortium Chair: Frada Burstein, Monash University, Australia
Steering Committee: Frederic Adam, University College Cork, Ireland; Frada Burstein, Monash University, Australia; Sven Carlsson, Lund University, Sweden; Patrick Humphreys, London School of Economics, UK; Piero Migliarese, University of Calabria, Italy; Gloria Phillips-Wren, Loyola University Maryland, USA; José Alberto Pino, University of Chile, Chile; Ana Respicio, University of Lisbon, Portugal; Pascale Zaraté, IRIT-ENSIACET-INPT, Toulouse, France.
Organising Committee: Rita Almeida Ribeiro, New University of Lisbon, Portugal; Carlos Teixeira, University of Lisbon, Portugal; João Telhada, University of Lisbon, Portugal.
IT-CMF STUDY SHOWS HIGHEST IT MATURITY IN HIGH-TECH COMPANIES, LOWER IN PHARMA, UTILITIES
CIOs EMPOWERED THROUGH NEW IVI PROFESSIONAL DIPLOMAS & MASTERS QUALIFICATION
LEADING GLOBAL ENERGY COMPANIES USING IT-CMF ON INDUSTRY-FIRST COLLABORATION

Further savings and benefits reported leading by organisations

After more than 60,000 man hours of development and over $10 million in investment, the IT-CMF version 1.0 is now fully operational for companies to assess their IT management maturity, leading to significant savings and efficiencies, the annual European Conference of the Innovation Value Institute (IVI) heard today, at NUI Maynooth, Ireland.

Data from latest industry analysis of 150 IT-CMF assessments across 80 leading Fortune 500 companies shows that the average maturity levels for all companies in all 32 Critical Processes is quite low at around 2.1 out of a possible 5. The highest scores are in the high-tech sector, at an average level of 2.5, while the pharmaceutical sector scored lowest at an average 1.9. Financial services scored 2.2, utilities averaged 2.0, while other companies and organisations scored an average of 2.1.

Commenting on the study, Ralf Dreischmeier, IVI Director and Partner and Managing Director of The Boston Consulting Group said that when companies initially self-assessed according to IVI high-level frameworks their own scores averaged around 3.0. “There is something of a gap between organisations’ own sense of their maturity and the reality. The IT-CMF identifies these gaps and lays out a road-map for capability improvement. What we have also found, interestingly, is that CIOs often rate their maturity levels a full point higher on the scale than IT leaders further down their IT organisation”.

IVI also announced the establishment of an international Masters degree and professional diploma courses, tailored for CIOs and senior IT executives to align IT with business strategy, improve business performance and ensure the CIO’s position at the boardroom table. IVI has already trained over 300 CIOs and senior IT executives from more than 20 countries, over the past three years.

Initiated as a joint venture between Intel, NUI Maynooth and The Boston Consulting Group, IVI now has over 55 blue-chip patron members engaged on its development, including Ernst & Young, Microsoft and BP as well as new members Cisco and the US Air Force. Companies with which it has recently engaged include Deutsche Post, State Street, SAP and one of Ireland’s largest public sector institutions, Beaumont Hospital. IVI was named a Centre of Excellence by the Irish Government in 2009.

Among the news and results outlined at the Conference were:

- **Chevron** announced it had adopted the IT-CMF as unifying framework across all of its global IT operations, from exploration to distribution and sales.
- **IVI** also announced that the world’s leading oil and gas companies are using the IT-CMF in an integrated benchmarking study covering their entire enterprise IT. The IT-CMF assessment is being carried out by IVI steering patron The Boston Consulting Group
- The establishment of IVI accredited professional qualifications through NUI Maynooth in Europe and Bentley University in the US, providing senior management qualifications to CIOs. These include an MBA-style Masters in IT for Business Value degree programme on the business alignment of IT investments and a range of Professional Diplomas for executives to improve their own organisation’s IT investment decisions.
- Within the IT-CMF assessments, there is a wide dispersion of maturity in IT investment management, with a low overall average score of 2.4, but leading organisations prioritising this area and demonstrating the highest maturity scores yet seen (at 4.1). IVI assessments also reveal key skills and capability gaps preventing the realisation of business value from IT:
  - Architects with deep technical skills but lacking the business analysis and communication skills to make a compelling case for the architecture simplification that would bring down IT costs.
  - High maturity around IT investment approval being undermined by weak tracking of benefits delivery.

(Continued on page 10)
Speaking at the Conference IVI founder and Intel Global Director of IT Innovation Professor Martin Curley said the IT-CMF was now fully mature and its application and potential was being better understood by industry. “The financial turmoil of the past 18 months has underlined the pressing need for the IT function of an organisation to be able to account for itself. No-one can justify large costs without an idea of return. While IT is obviously vital to the functioning of a modern organisation, through IT-CMF we can now help companies quantify the contribution it makes in real cash terms, and better plan to identify savings and Return on Investment. This works equally well for Fortune 500 companies as well as for public sector organisations”, he said.

NUI Maynooth President, Professor John Hughes said the introduction of IT-focused postgraduate business qualifications would greatly empower the role of the CIO. “We can now offer organisations international qualifications, from professional diplomas to Masters in IT Management, in this nascent area of IT accountability. This is extremely exciting for CIOs as it will provide them with specific postgraduate managerial training, focused on their roles and skill sets to allow them take their place at the boardroom table. The delivery of these programmes, on-line and through NUI Maynooth and Bentley University (Boston MA, USA), will be unique to the market. Over the coming months we anticipate rolling these courses out to 20 universities worldwide.”

Commenting on the collaborative work of the leading energy companies, Andrew Agerbak, Chair of the IVI management team and Principal at The Boston Consulting Group said IVI firmly believed business competitors could share and learn in solving common IT challenges. “IVI has been constructed as an international open forum learning consortium. To date, that learning has been largely achieved across industry sectors, but this collaboration, amongst a number of leading companies within the oil and gas sector demonstrates a particularly powerful application of the IT-CMF. The value of the IT-CMF is dramatically increased when companies of this scale, with very particular but similar IT challenges benchmark with each other and pool their learnings to recognise and drive IT value”, he added.

The oil companies’ IT capability maturity was assessed across six dimensions of the IT-CMF – Innovation; Benefits Assessment and Realisation; Sourcing; Strategic Planning; Organisation Design and Planning; and Leadership and Governance.

The benchmarking study will continue throughout 2010 with results currently being presented to CIOs.

Cisco Europe CIO, Robbert Kuppens said “Cisco is very interested in using the IT-CMF to carry out an in-depth assessment of our IT operating model and capabilities. Of particular value is the ability to benchmark, identify gaps and use the assessment to prioritise future IT investment to enable Cisco’s growth, innovation and customer experience.”

Beaumont Hospital CIO Martin McCormack said the IT-CMF provided public sector organisations the framework to ensure their IT investment decisions remained best in class. “It is impossible to overstate the importance of good IT investment for the public sector, particularly in healthcare. By being involved with the IVI we are benchmarking our practice against industry best practice. The IT-CMF assessments on Project Management and Portfolio Planning Processes give us a very accurate picture of exactly where we stand right now against best practice. The roadmap that IVI provides will allow us innovate with confidence, assign budgets to those projects that deliver best value for patients and staff and drive to improve in a fast, structured way”, he said.

IVI is headquartered at NUI Maynooth. There are 120 IT practitioners and researchers from its 40 global member companies divided into 15 working groups providing services to client organisations and engaged in ongoing research and development of the IT-CMF on a year-round basis.
November 3-5, 2010
BUENOS AIRES, ARGENTINA

e-Business
e-Services
e-Society

AUTHORS REGISTRATION DEADLINE
16 July

REGISTRATION DATE
01 October

IIFIP proceedings are published in the IFIP Advances in Information and Communication Technology series. The IFIP AICT series is registered with both SCOPUS and IST Web of Science.

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION PLEASE VISIT
WWW.IIST.UNU.EDU/3E
MIESO DENKO

It is with great sadness that his colleagues and friends observe the passing of Dr. Mieso Denko. Mieso passed away after a brief illness on Sunday, April 25, 2010, at the very young age of 42. Mieso leaves a wife and three small children.

He received his BSc from Addis Ababa University in 1988, his MSc from the University of Wales in 1994 and his PhD from the University of Natal in 2001. At Mieso’s funeral, held on May 1, 2010, his many friends and colleagues learned that he was born in a rural Ethiopian village, a two hour’s run to and from primary school each day. He brought that enthusiasm into his professional career: Mieso was a valued contributor to university life and to the professional societies and conference organizations to which he belonged.

Mieso was a faculty member at the University of Guelph since 2002, at the main campus and at the University of Guelph-Humber. Well-loved and respected by the students, he received a Professor of the Year Award at G-H in 2006. As a faculty member he was a willing participant in activities for the good of the department and of the students. Asked why he did more than most with regards to liaison and outreach, his answer was a cheerful, "You have to give back!" Mieso gave more than most and always with a smile and a kind word.

He was research-active in mobile computing and wireless networks with a focus on wireless mesh networks, wireless pervasive networking and communications, mobile ad hoc networks and integrated hybrid wireless/wired networks. His research collaborations included seventeen graduate and senior undergraduate students, and numerous colleagues from around the world, with whom he published 59 refereed contributions and numerous other articles. He was a senior member of ACM and IEEE.

Mieso was a very active member of IFIP-TC6 Working Group 6.9 “Communications Systems for Developing Countries”, being the vice chair since 2007. In the framework of this working group, he organized the first International Conference on Wireless Communications and Information Technology for Developing Countries (WCITD) in 2006, and later he worked hard to promote and disseminate it as a useful tool to improve research activities in and for developing countries. When he died, he was immersed in the selection of the best technical program and speakers for the next WCITD conference. It can be said that Mieso died with his boots on, working on what he loved the best: promoting research activities and encouraging cross-fertilization of ideas, techniques and concepts among countries from different regions in the world. Mieso also participated actively in the organization of the World Information Technology Forum. His contributions were crucial to identify and select the best projects and initiatives to help to bridge the digital divide and improve the quality of life of millions of people. IFIP has lost a very cooperative member. We have lost a good friend and a valuable colleague.
Some of forthcoming IFIP events. For a full list of events, please look at [http://www.ifip.org](http://www.ifip.org)

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