

IFIP Board Meeting (Tele Conference ZOOM) June 2020



INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION FOR INFORMATION PROCESSING

**MINUTES OF THE
Virtual BOARD MEETING
June 29th, 2020**

ZOOM

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Attendance List

M Hinchey	President
G Marin-Raventos	Vice President
Y Murayama	Vice President
K Rannenberg	Vice President
A Wong	Vice President
M De Roche	Councillor
R Macedo	Councillor
Jee-In Kim	Councillor
J Nawrocky	Councillor
L Eastwood	Councillor
P Palanque	Councillor
G van der Veer	Councillor
D Brady	Honorary Treasurer
M Ftacnik	Honorary Treasurer Elect
M Bramer	Honorary Secretary
E Dundler	IFIP General Secretary

1 Call Meeting to Order

The President welcomed all participants to the virtual meeting. He reported that it was originally planned to hold the Board meeting in Nanjing, China, was then removed due the COVID-19 virus to Berlin at a later time and finally this was also cancelled and the meeting was changed to a virtual meeting using ZOOM.

2 Attendance and apologies

Mr Bramer, the Honorary Secretary confirmed that all members of the Board besides Mr Abeywickrama (Councillor) attend the Board meeting. Mr Abeywickrama missed the last General Assembly meetings and also the last two Board meetings and according IFIP's Statutes and Bylaws is deemed to be retired. With the present attendance the IFIP Board meeting has a quorum to take decisions.

3 Business issues

3.1 *Approval of Agenda*

Mr Hinchey asked the Board for approval of the agenda for the Board meeting. The Board unanimously **APPROVED** the agenda.

3.2 *President's Report*

Mr Hinchey presented the President's report. He confirmed the statement of the Honorary Secretary that Mr Abeywickrama is deemed to be retired. A replacement will be elected at next General Assembly.

Covid-19

Clearly the biggest issue for most people currently is the current pandemic. Following, in many cases, several weeks of lockdown, institutions, businesses and facilities are beginning to reopen. However, travel is still uncertain and problematic (with required quarantines, limited flights, etc.) and as a result a number of activities are rescheduled or cancelled. Even our own Board meeting has been delayed (cancelled in Nanjing, moved to Berlin, rescheduled and ultimately cancelled) and is now online. Second and possibly even third spikes are anticipated and may have further effects on dates and activities. I will update on other issues that are changed in the rest of this report.

General Assembly 2020

As reported elsewhere, the General Assembly will unfortunately be moved to an online only event. To keep the meeting short (scheduled for 3 hours on 24 September), only essential presentations will be made. All participants have been asked to prepare their written report in a timely fashion and upload to the restricted area. We sincerely hope that this will be the only time that this is necessary.

UNESCO

We had planned to host an event to celebrate our 60th anniversary/jubilee at Maison de l'UNESCO on 28 September 2020. Because of the current situation we have decided to postpone this event. UNESCO are fully supportive of rescheduling the event but we do not yet have a specific date. We have specifically requested that the event is moved for a full year (to 28 September 2021) so that it will still coincide with UNESCO's International Day for Universal Access to Information and mark the end of our 60th anniversary year. We do not, as yet, have confirmation that this requested date will be possible.

It is likely that we will have a small number of smaller events in the meantime, possibly online or a mixture of online and physical. Such events could include the launch of the Jubilee books (cf. PC report) and the launch of an IFIP Code of Ethics, among others.

UNCTAD

Following a successful IFIP "side event" at UNCTAD last year, the intention was to have a presence this year in Geneva. Due to the pandemic, the event was postponed by 6 weeks and ultimately run online as 3 x 1.5 hour sessions, 10-12 June.

WSIS

WSIS was also postponed and ultimately it was decided to run it as multiple events over multiple weeks, following a consultation process on 28 May. Moira de Roche will be IFIP's main representative and events will be run on Ethics, Disaster Risk Reduction and Education.

AI for Good

AI for Good has also been transferred to an online event, with activities spread out over a number of months.

Ethics

TC9 has been leading a development of an IFIP Code of Ethics based on, and expanding upon, the ACM Code of Ethics. A complete version is available for the Board to approve in advance of layout and printing. A budget for printing and distribution is also requested.

InterYIT

InterYIT has held a number of activities. This includes 2 online events related to the use of AI and related technologies in addressing the pandemic. All events had good attendance and promoted the IFIP brand.

AI Forum

As reported at the last Board meeting, and at the GA, at the request of BMVIT, we organized an event on the topic of AI at the Ministry in Vienna in May 2109. Sir Roger Penrose and Stephen Ibaraki were keynote speakers. Eunika Mercier-Laurent organized several other speakers and panels and is considering this event as a model for an event in France in September 2020. BMVIT has asked that we have a repeat event in 2021.

Membership

Over the past 2 years we have spoken with potential new members: Botswana Computer Society, Thai Association of IT Professionals, Bangladesh Computer Society, IT Commission of the United Republic of Tanzania. IP3, and Moira de Roche in particular, have been helping to progress issues with Botswana and Tanzania, and Moira is assisting Botswana with a forthcoming event.

Unfortunately, we have lost John von Neumann Computer Society (Hungary).

Sweden had concerns about continuing their membership. I was asked to attend their Board meeting in Stockholm, which became online only. They decided to deal only with coronavirus-related issues at that meeting and I have been asked to attend a future meeting instead. In the meantime, they have renewed their membership.

Finance

Naturally the financial situation for the coming months (and years) is uncertain. Income for 2020 is mostly received. 2021 and beyond are more uncertain as particular member societies suffer from loss of income. Also, cancelled events and events running online only will impact the income we receive from event fees and (to a lesser degree) royalties.

Time is allocated on the schedule to discuss budgets and finance

3.3 Secretary's Report

Mr Bramer presented the report of the Honorary Secretary:

This is my first report since taking on the role of Honorary Secretary at the end of the 2019 General Assembly in Kiev. Since then I have regularly communicated with Mr. Eduard Dundler, the IFIP General Secretary and the head of the IFIP Secretariat on management and administrative matters and have found him an invaluable source of information and support. I have had much less interaction with Mr. Dundler's colleagues in the Secretariat, Brigitte Brauneis and Marion Smith, but have invariably found them positive and helpful. The Federation is fortunate to have such a strong central secretariat, especially in these difficult times.

Apart from 'standard' office work, the Secretariat's work since the last General Assembly has included the following:

- *Preparing a report to the Austrian government about the use of its grant for 2018/2019*
- *Preparation of a successful application to the Austrian government for a grant for 2020/2021
(This income is the result of excellent personal communication and cooperation with the ministry.)*
- *Renewal of the IT Infrastructure in connection with Windows 10*
- *Preparation of a report on the use of a UNESCO grant for a TC8 conference in Africa (10.000 USD)*

The processing of files and metadata relating to event proceedings as preparation for the inclusion of papers in the IFIP Digital Library is carried out by the Secretariat as a regular commitment. Whatever the benefits of doing this work, it is a substantial ongoing time commitment for the Secretariat and takes up staff time that might usefully be devoted to other matters especially providing additional support and information to the Federation's member societies, Technical Committees and event organisers. In my opinion this use of Secretariat time needs to be reviewed.

Membership

At the time of writing the Federation's membership is as follows

Full Members: 35

International Members at Large: 2

National Member at Large: 1

Associate Members: 4

Honorary Members: 7

Ex-Officio Members: 6

Membership issues will be discussed further under the Membership and Marketing Committee Report agenda item for this meeting.

Executive Committee

Since the last General Assembly, the Executive Committee has had two teleconference meetings: on January 30th 2020 and May 8th 2020. The minutes of these meetings are given in the Executive Committee report elsewhere on the agenda for this meeting.

Finance Committee and Technical Assembly Chairs

Franz Rammig and Michael Goedicke have left the General Assembly and so under our Statutes and Bylaws are no longer eligible to serve as Finance Committee and Technical Assembly Chairs, respectively. The President will appoint replacement chairs in due course.

Annual Report

My experience of discussion with senior members of one of our member societies strongly suggests that the production of a printed annual report adds considerably to the Federation's external credibility. The production of the 2018/19 Report has been delayed but it should be available soon. A decision needs to be made on the balance between paper and electronic distribution of this important document.

Experimental Board Meeting

As an experiment an additional meeting of the Board was held in Kiev shortly before the 2019 meeting of the General Assembly. This experiment was certainly not an unqualified success. There were strongly expressed views – mistaken but understandable – that the intention was to conceal important information from the non-Board members of the General Assembly and in my view any small benefit gained from the additional meeting was more than outweighed by the time it took away from the GA meeting itself and the negative atmosphere that it inadvertently created. I strongly recommend that this experiment is now discontinued.

The Board AGREED not to continue the experiment of the previous Board meeting / General Assembly.

Covid-19 Problems

Since approximately February the work of the Federation and much of the rest of the world has been severely disrupted by the Covid-19 pandemic. It is fortunate that the layout of the headquarters building in Laxenburg has enabled the Secretariat to continue working there whilst maintaining safe 'social distancing'. Most of the Federation's events have been postponed to later this year or to 2021. Some of them have been organized as 'virtual conferences'. So far only a few have been cancelled altogether.

At the time of writing it is impossible to estimate the effect on IFIP – an organization that operates on a worldwide scale - and its member societies, whether in the short, medium or long-term. The virus has been eliminated or almost eliminated in some countries but is still spreading almost uncontrolled in others. All countries are potentially vulnerable to a 'second wave' of the virus later this year or next and it is unlikely that it will be eliminated worldwide for many years.

However, it is easy to predict that many conferences, both IFIP 'sponsored' events and member societies' own events, having changed to a virtual mode of presentation will remain that way with significantly lower fees, that many organisations will go out of business, possibly including some Universities and even some airlines, and that world-wide travel is likely to be severely constrained for safety reasons for several years at least. The economic implications of imposing lockdowns in many countries are likely to lead to major budget cuts in several countries and may cause severe financial problems or even existential problems for some of our member societies.

The overall effect of all this on the Federation's finances, probably for a long time and possibly permanently, can only be significantly negative. It would certainly be foolish to imagine that if we wait a month or two the problem will simply go away and everything will go back to normal. Far more likely the world will have to adjust to a 'new normal' and this may not be easy or pleasant to do.

Even before the CoronaVirus crisis hit the world, the Federation had been spending considerably more than it brings in every year, relying on income from the 'Investment Fund' to make up the deficit. However, that investment income is now itself under threat as the Honorary Treasurer will no doubt explain and continuing to spend far more than we earn is likely to be the route to extinction. The Federation urgently needs a new financial model.

I draw the Board's attention to Minute 2(b) of the most recent Executive Committee meeting, where it was agreed that 'the Finance Committee [will] draw up a strategy for bringing the Federation's annual income and expenditure (excluding any investment income) into balance within three years' and that Mr Milan Ftacnik, Honorary Treasurer-elect, 'will work together with Mr Brady [outgoing Honorary Treasurer] on a proposal for a finance strategy to be discussed with the Finance Committee before being put to the GA for approval'. I see this as a most important initiative. Drawing up a new financial model involves a thorough examination of the way we are currently working. We must be prepared to look for new sources of income and at the same time must avoid assuming that any of our current expenditure is sacrosanct. An initial report on this work is scheduled for elsewhere in this meeting.

The Board ACCEPTED the report.

3.4 EC Meetings Report

Mr Bramer informed the Board that since 2011 all minutes of meetings of the Executive Committee have been made available to General Assembly members in the Secure Area of the Federation's website.

3.5 Treasurer's Report

The Honorary Treasurer, Mr Brady informed the Board that the usual finance reports are available in the Secure area of IFIP's website. But he wanted to draw the attention of the Board on the next item towards a new financial model.

3.6 Towards a new financial model

Mr Brady presented some thoughts on finances concerning the future of finances in IFIP and put them to discussion within the Board:

It is a challenging area, made more complex by the lack of prescience concerning potential fallout arising from SARSCov-2. The most important thing to do now, is to do our best to understand the factors, and to set out a roadmap to achieve positive action, based on our best assessment of the potential impacts of various possible steps.

Milan and I have discussed the finances, and we believe there are a number of key factors to be considered:

- **Secretariat:** *As a single cost item, this is IFIP's largest, and costs more than IFIP's single largest revenue source (membership fees). Good governance recommends that IFIP periodically evaluates the role, function, costs, productivity, effectiveness, and value for money afforded by the Secretariat, so that that can be weighed against the challenges of ensuring that it is appropriately funded. It is our view that the costs of Secretariat should be covered by IFIP income streams in proportion to the support given by the Secretariat to the activities associated with those streams (e.g. support for member societies and GA funded by membership income, and support for technical committees and associated events funded by income generated by technical committees, with some reasonable allowance for cross subsidisation). All options should be on the table here.*

- **Expenses:** *Discretionary spending, while relatively modest, does add up. A saving in this area can be an important contribution to another area with greater need. The pandemic has helped to contrast the difference between what is essential, and what can be achieved by innovative means, and IFIP needs a renewed concentration on the latter; it seems reasonable that a society based around information technology should be seen as a leader/exemplar in the exploitation of such technology to achieve its goals/aims/purposes in a best-practice context. For example, conference travel grants might be better used to subsidise open publication, and so on.*
- **Recurring Expenditures:** *There are several areas within IFIP of recurring expenditure where an impartial evaluation of whether IFIP obtains benefit to match such expenditure is lacking. There should be no “sacred cows” here, so areas such as publications, digital library, landmark events (WSIS, WITFOR) need to be objectively assessed for real value (monetary, and achievement of IFIP goals and aims).*
- **Income Streams:** *IFIP has essentially three streams of income: member fees; event royalties; and publication royalties (we ignore, for the moment, sporadic windfalls from retained funds, and irregular sponsorship in cash or kind). Member fees are essentially flat for a number of years, and we are all witness to the latest actions on revision. Member Societies (of course, and rightly) are focusing on what they perceive for the value obtained for their fee. Event royalties go up and down, but the trend for physical events has been down – this deflates both income and costs. It is too early, yet, to see what the medium-to-long term effect of SARS-Cov-2 and the COVID pandemic will be (e.g. virtual events should be cheaper to run, so individual royalties may decrease; however, if other costs are removed, there is more to spend on more events, so maybe more people attend more events, so overall royalties increase? At the moment, this -like much else - is crystal ball gazing). Publication royalties are flat, and seem likely to remain so; it is unclear whether lack of physical (ev) books or less.*
- **TC Funds:** *There is an ongoing challenge here, the fundamental source of which predates my relationship with IFIP. It is likely that some fundamental rethinking on how TCs are funded is needed. This needs to consider how TCs (and, indeed, the various IFIP committees) plan financially for more than one year, and how “profits” from one source might be used to “subsidise” something else. This requires the most proactive support and engagement from the TA and from TC chairs.*
- **Assets:** *IFIP does not have a regular product-based income stream that can be relied on or leveraged; nor does it own anything of any substance. What IFIP does have, is a large sum of money. In the past, the policy was that IFIP is not in the business of investing (we are not experts there), and so the money was placed with UBS on a “low risk” basis. Well, that era has ended; consideration needs to be given to the potential to use the IFIP fund to generate income - else we will just spend it down (though, to be fair, this will take perhaps 20 years at the current run rate). This may be as “simple” as just buying into a market-indexed fund (with all the ups and downs!), but we need then to get past the “american elephant” in the room. Options are needed*

- **Budget and Control:** *with so many volunteers doing so many things in so many different ways, establishing and controlling budgets is very challenging within IFIP. Real consequences of this are our inability to assess trends and perform other kinds of financial analysis that might advise and inform. With everyone's cooperation, this area needs to be tightened (though with reasonableness and flexibility in mind, rather than draconian burden).*

IFIP is not profligate. The scale of expenditure when compared to the enormity of the voluntary work that is done does not seem unreasonable. Nevertheless, many small things add up to larger numbers, and a refocused balance is needed in order to become sustainable. Some of this will benefit from innovation, while other parts may need "cutting our cloth to our measure".

We are all volunteers, and there is rather a lot in the above (which is only a sample) to be realistically considered in a realistic timescale by voluntary effort. A key date is the General Assembly in September, as fundamental changes will require – at the very least – the blessing of GA in order to proceed. Therefore it is necessary to prioritise and apportion, in order to divide a reasonable volume of tasks to available resources with a reasonable chance of achievement.

A strong priority here needs to be the crafting of the 2021 budget which, given so many unknown unknowns, needs to be a "parking budget" to create time and capacity to achieve outcomes. TCs will need to reflect strongly on the impact of COVID on 2020 plans, and what appears realistic for 2021 (which will not be "business as usual"). Further, to enable us to do some modelling on the overall IFIP finances, TCs (and all other budget holders) will need to engage in some traditional estimation work – what is pessimistic, and why; what is optimistic, and why; what is most realistic, and why. And this will need to be done relatively quickly.

We propose that various of the above considerations get tasked on a prioritised basis to appropriate parts of IFIP, with the goal of making a draft financial proposal to GA in September for a five-year plan (with interim goals and measures) to achieve balance. The Treasurer and Treasurer-elect will coordinate (in addition to any tasks), and the Finance Committee will be asked to review (in addition to any tasks).

The report has been discussed within the Board and the proposals were in general **ACCEPTED** by the Board.

The Board **REQUESTED** the Treasurer and Treasurer Elect to create subgroups to specific issues and present models to General Assembly based on various scenarios.

The Treasurer will start conversations with the Technical Committees regarding plans for financing the TCs.

It has been noted that a detailed analysis and discussion of the Digital Library is necessary.

The area of events needs to be examined carefully also in respect of chances due to COVID-19; Virtual conferences would increase the opportunities to reach much more people from developing countries.

The majority opinion of the Board was that the area of events has to be analysed carefully regarding sponsoring of Technical Committees, numbers of events (maybe there are too many events) and too much relying on online events.

4 Flagship Events

4.1 WCC Future

Mr Hinchey reported that there is an interest of India very interested to organise a World Computer Congress. But it is recommended not to do it right now and postpone the event.

4.2 WITFOR Future

Mr Hinchey reported that for the time now there are no concrete plans for a WITFOR in the next time.

In a discussion within the Board, several people suggested having events that benefit IFIP's members and that are related to Covid-19 and exploiting the fact that many events are running entirely online.

The Board **REQUESTED** the President to progress the idea and to form an ad hoc committee to run WITFOR event to online.

4.3 WCF Future

Mr Hinchey reported that under the present circumstances it is not recommended doing it right now

4.4 IFIP 60th Anniversary

Mr Hinchey reported that it has been planned with UNESCO to host an event to celebrate IFIP's 60th anniversary/jubilee at Maison de l'UNESCO on 28 September 2020. Because of the current situation it has been decided to postpone this event. UNESCO is fully supportive of rescheduling the event but there is no specific date yet.

IFIP has specifically requested that the event is moved for a full year (to 28 September 2021) so that it will still coincide with UNESCO's International Day for Universal Access to Information and mark the end of IFIP's 60th anniversary year.

We do not, yet, have confirmation from UNESCO that this requested date will be possible.

5 InterYIT

Mr Hinchey presented the report from Mr Amit Joshi (Chair of InterYIT). He reminded the Board on the Working Objectives (2020):

- To encourage the professional growth of Young Professionals around the world.
- Be the umbrella organization for all Young IT groups that are directly and indirectly working with national computer societies and at interest levels.
- Foster communication between Young IT Groups.
- Encourage the creation of new Youth IT Groups within member societies who does not currently have such representation in digital meeting formats.

- Promote representation of young professionals in the computer societies as well as within IFIP.
- Be the linkage between young professionals (www.ifip-interyit.org) and IFIP (www.ifip.org).

The InterYIT board expects to expand its services to support young professionals around the world as well as to strengthen groups of young professionals who are in the field of IT.

InterYIT represents youth or Young ICT Professionals represents the countries or regions, covering all 5 continents at this point of time. Ambassadors would be the face of the InterYIT in the member countries as well as trying to maximize the presence of InterYIT in nonmember countries as well. Ambassadors are responsible for promoting InterYIT activities among the like-minded researchers and Young ICT professionals working in the different ICT domains.

IFIP InterYIT Associated Events (Oct 2019 – April 2020)

- International Workshop on Data Science Brunel University, London, UK
- International Congress on ICT Brunel University, London, UK
- International Conference on ICT for Intelligent Systems
Ahmedabad, India – Went Digital on ZOOM
- Thought on AI Forum For COVID 19 – 1st Edition Went Digital
- Thought on AI Forum For COVID 19 – 2nd Edition Went Digital
- Workshop on Machine Learning Went Digital
- International Conference on IT Applications and Frontiers Cairo, Egypt
- International Conference Data Technology and Analysis Taipei, Taiwan

Conclusion:

Lots have changed in last few months, Mr Joshi as an Chair of InterYIT is trying hard to engage different working group all across the globe to organize smaller working group events and I am further happy to share that at least 20 such event have been held on ZOOM in last 4 months.

He expects to be back with physical events as soon this crisis is over for more exposure.

6 Professionalism Program (IP3)

Ms de Roche reminded the Board in her report on the values of IP3:

A global IT Profession that delivers trustworthy computing for all stakeholders. IFIP IP3 sets the global standard for professionalism and assesses professional bodies against these standards.

We partner with notable world organisations to provide Trust in Digital. IFIP IP3:

- Assesses organizations for local requirements against a global standard
- Is backed by IFIP, the world’s largest federation of computing organisations, with UN roots, and aligned with the Sustainable Development Goals
- Strengthens governance by reducing risk certified professionals are competent and maintain their skills & knowledge and subscribe to a code of ethics.

IP3 Accreditations 2020:

The process for accreditation remains as before, but “only” online and not face-to-face. For 2020 the following activities are planned:

- CIPS reaccreditation
- IITPSA reaccreditation
- Also new designation Professional CIO (SFIA Level 7)

- ACS reaccreditation

WSIS:

Postponed due to COVID-19, it will take place as a virtual Event from 22 June 2020
IP3 will be present in the “High Level Event” with:

- IFIP question “What support does IFIP provide to governments, organisations and the information society to help them promote and ensure ethical behaviour
- Supports launch of IFIP Code of Ethics
IP3 Thematic Workshop 15 July 2020:
- Living the standard how can the Information and Knowledge Society live to an ethical and FAIR Standard without needing to refer to a Codes of Ethics (IFIP IP3)
Panelists from IFIP community, Rotary and EU

Events:

AI for Good (ITU) (Stephen Ibaraki)

Physical Event in Geneva cancelled and replaced by Webinar series

- o Continuous Digital Event
- o March 2020 thru December 2020

Computer Society Botswana

- o Annual Symposium Moira de Roche invited Keynote speaker
- o AGM discussed strategies for increasing membership
- o Keen to join IFIP

Project: “Everybody everywhere digital skills digital capacity building IFIP / Rotary / STD collaboration:

The project is led by Liesbeth Ruoff (KNVI & CEN) and uses OECD 2015 report “The future of productivity report”.

The goals and deliverables set in the proposal are:

- to make a repository of best practices, frameworks and use cases worldwide around the development and the usage of frontline digital technology;
- practical recommendations based on findings
- to start a platform of experts based on the inventory of best practices and use cases around the development of the ICT profession
- Revised and expanded as we interact with partners
Resources: ITU Digital Skills Assessment Guidebook

Ms de Roche informed the Board that IP3 is looking for partners in the project and would like to bring in leaders from the ICT world (IFIP) and leaders in profit and nonprofit organizations (Rotary) together to cooperate and exchange knowledge. Contact was made with Rotary in the Netherlands with a positive reaction. IP3 is working toward applying for Global Grant and is staying in touch with CSTD.

First activities:

- Aim of applying for a global grant create digital capacity and prevent a “digital divide ” what is the need?
- Explain to Rotary community that we mean to build a capacity that is not dependent on the commitment and goodwill of (one of) the “big 5 tech” companies
- Emphasis had to be on “implementing ”
- Implementing asks for attention, cost a lot of time
- Implementing must match needs and starting position of a community, region or country
- Approached Botswana contact as a possible pilot
- Other possible pilot countries coming up were Tanzania and Rwanda

- In addition an example of a successful program set up in Ghana could possibly be replicated extended to meet our goal s
- Desk research

Current situation:

- Audrey Masizana (CSB & University of Botswana)
 - o wanted Botswana to be a Pilot, and will participate - first interview call took place
 - o Second call, two representatives from Rotary Botswana and the ICT community represented by Dr. Tshiamo as well as Dr Masizana
 - o They have offered to conduct a first assessment on which of the needs are the most urgent and fitting in the setting of the Global Grant. The OECD framework: Going Digital will be used. In the beginning of June, a next Zoom session discussing results is planned.
- In a speech by the incoming Rotary chairman worldwide Holger Knaack, he acknowledged that “The digital revolution has affected us much harder than we anticipated” , because of the impact of COVID 19, and that Rotary cannot look away.

IFIP IP3 David O’Leary prize

Deputy CEO of the Irish Computer Society (ICS), Mary Cleary won the inaugural David O’Leary Award 2019 in recognition of her ethical and professional leadership over many years. In receiving her award at IFIP General Assembly in Kiev, Ukraine, Ms Cleary said she was surprised and delighted to be honoured in this way.

Ms de Roche informed the Board that the IP3 Board decided to suspend the award in 2020, as there will be no face-to-face General Assembly. A call for nominations will start end 2020.

7 Technical Assembly (TA)

Mr Pallanque reported from discussions and decisions in last meeting of Technical Assembly:

- IT in Disaster Risk Reduction
formerly a Domain Committee. Defining documents and the mission is briefly discussed and the foundation of the new WG 5.15 Information Technology in Disaster Risk Reduction (ITDRR) is accepted by the TA.
- General situation with conferences and meetings
Discussion about issues with the change to move an event from a normal to an online event. TA has been informed by the EC that it has been decided, that for the time being the event has not to pay any fees to IFIP if the event makes no profit Virtual Conference – Systems for performing an online / virtual event: As shown by ACM / IEEE, many systems available dependent on the nature and profile of the event, interactive vs webinar with low level of interaction. It was suggested that there should be a possible low fee for the attendees in order to cover the costs. Student travel grants should be redefined since there is no travel involved.
- Coalition Membership of Informatics for All (TC3, Don Passey)
c.f. <https://www.informaticsforall.org/>
This is a society about Informatics / Computer Science Curricula development. It seems important but there is an annual fee of 10K€ involved. This was regarded

as too expensive given the financial resources of TC 3 and IFIP in general. It was suggested that a new proposal needs to be made how an involvement of IFIP / TC3 in this activity can be organized. This will be going to the EC / GA finally.

- Progress in IFIP fellows nominations

The members of the TA felt that the process to nominate and actually name the IFIP fellows is not too opaque and not transparent enough. Also due to a lack of feedback which was also received as potentially problematic it was difficult to write an application in a successful way. Also as it seems the decision in the committee is not discussed in any way. Thus the TA requests that there is a discussion and potentially also some feedback why a decision has been made in a specific way.

This issue has been discussed and the Board **DECIDED** that a feedback of the selection Committee is not foreseen in order to safeguard the nominees.

- Future GA (agenda and duration) and visibility of TA and TCs at the GA

The current scheme for the GA Agenda vs. the old one was discussed and the TA strongly proposes to go back to the original agenda schema where the TA has proper place to discuss its issues and topics, presents itself etc.

The Board AGREED not to continue the experiment of the previous Board meeting / General Assembly.

- AICT 600

After a extensive discussion about the pro and cons regarding the schedule of dates in producing and reviewing the contributions to the AICT 600 volume it was decided and agreed to move the deadline of delivering the contribution in reviewable form to end of July 2020.

- Publications

As a result of a side discussion on the number of free copies of proceedings for an IFIP Event Kai Rannenber reports that up to 50 copies can be received but this may be requested especially. As a follow up his investigations into this problem, a June 2020 "IFIP AICT - Terms of Bulk Purchases of Conference Proceedings" emerged which state 25 free copies which can be extended to 50 free copies on request.

8. Domain Committees

8.1. DC on Health Care

No report has been submitted. **Mr Hinchey** will check the current situation and come up at General Assembly.

8.2. DC on Internet of Things

Mr Hinchey drew attention to the report of **Mr Strous**, the Chair of the Domain Committee on Internet of Things:

Membership

Since the report to GA 2019 the membership has not changed. The Domain Committee is still interested in expanding the membership to the Technical Committees that are not yet represented.

Position paper

The draft position paper is included in the open access proceedings (AICT 548) of the first working conference during WCC 2018. A revised version was accepted by the Board 2019 and the position paper has been published and distributed. Upon publication a number of reactions have been received. These were included in the report to GA 2019 with the intention to discuss how to proceed. This discussion however did not take place and the Domain Committee will prepare a proposal for discussion at GA 2020.

Conferences

The second conference took place on 31 October and 1 November in Tampa, Florida, USA. Thanks to a lot of efforts by the local team, under the guidance of general co-chair Srinivas Katkoori, and the speakers and participants the event was a success with 30-40 participants for each session during two very full days of sessions. See IFIP Newsletter of December 2019 https://www.ifip.org/images/stories/ifip/public/Newsletter/2019to2020/news_dec_2019.pdf and the DC IoT website <http://ifip-iotconference.org/archive-2019/index.html>.

The proceedings "Internet of Things. A Confluence of Many Disciplines" are available as IFIP AICT 574. You can find information at <https://www.springer.com/978-3-030-43604-9>.

The third edition is on it's way, scheduled to take place on 5 and 6 November 2020 in Amsterdam. See <http://ifip-iotconference.org/>.

9. Publications

Mr Rannenber presented the accomplishments since the 2019 GA meeting, important facts and ongoing work:

- *Revision and update of the IFIP Digital Library*

The implementation of the new IFIP DL provided as a professional service by Inria is progressing further. The current status can be viewed at <https://hal.inria.fr/IFIP>. All IFIP publications by Springer from 2010 through 2018 and most of 2019 are in the DL.

We have the first three eCollection (non-Springer) volumes in the DL. One can see the eCollection from the home page. Each one is also in the collection for its TC and events.

For the most recent publications (for which Springer has the exclusive publication and embargo rights for three years except for author copies on authors' home pages) the tables of contents are given. There is a link to the author manuscript and a link to the paper in SpringerLink. So, the author manuscript can be obtained by clicking on its link, and the publication copy of the paper can be obtained by clicking on its link (designated "DOI"). The publication version link will be active as soon as the proceedings volume is added to the DL, so the paper will be accessible to those with a subscription to SpringerLink, and then it will be accessible to the public four years after publication. The author manuscript link will not be active until three years after publication. Monthly views were beyond 90000 (6.04) between April 2019 and August 2019 with a peak of 132399 (8.88). Monthly downloads were beyond 20000 (1.34) between May 2019 and August 2019 with a peak of 32474 (2.18). Figures in brackets give average values per uploaded full text document, of which there were 14903 in October 2019 (currently there are 15797). More current figures are expected from Inria, and we are also negotiating with Inria to focus delivery of statistics on views and

downloads, while Inria so far is prioritizing statistics on what new tools can deliver, mostly on the provenance of papers.

For all downloadable papers the numbers of record views and document downloads are given. <https://hal.inria.fr/IFIP-AICT-362/hal-00669799> also documents an example of the interface to Altmetric coverage with e.g. Mendeley and News references. Several options for search are implemented and a function “Cited literature” to extract bibliographies from articles automatically.

The eCollection workflow procedures are now agreed with the IFIP Secretariat and Inria. So, we are now inviting regular IFIP eCollections. The price is 10 EUR per paper upload (with the front matter counting as one paper also). Interested events are invited to contact the IFIP Secretariat.

Moreover the PC progressed on the concept to use the DL also as a repository for “other” IFIP documents that are not reviewed research conference/workshop papers but are relevant and not documented elsewhere, such as the Algol 68 book. To avoid misunderstandings this should not be called a “Series”, but to give it a title other than “other” the term “ePublications” and the use of individual identifiers beyond URLs was agreed to ease stable referencing. The pricing will match that of volumes in the eCollection series.

At the same time thanks to the volunteer efforts of TC 6 and especially Aiko Pras we continue to have many IFIP publications (mainly proceedings from 2005 till 2012) available for free access already now at <http://dl.ifip.org/>. This is not limited to TC 6 publications and holds for publications three years old and older. However, this library has collected more proceedings than agreed and made announcements, that the links to those proceedings would be preserved, even when dl.ifip.org will be rerouted to the new IFIP DL. Therefore, the transfer effort is larger than expected.

- Open Access to IFIP Publications

Open Access to IFIP Publications is currently realized via three channels, as documented www.ifip.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=219&Itemid=564 :

- 1) The upcoming IFIP Digital Library (<https://hal.inria.fr/IFIP/>), which currently makes available the author’s files of IFIP Springer publications (AICT, LNCS, LNBIP) from 2017 (as applicable) back to 2010. It also has the references to such publications up to and including 2019.
- 2) Springer Link (<https://link.springer.com>) for IFIP Springer publications (AICT, LNCS, LNBIP) with free access for all articles 4 years old and older, almost complete back till 2005 and on top many publications back till 1995, when Kluwer Academic Publishers (KAP) became the official IFIP publisher. NB: Not the “books” are free, but the individual articles. So, don’t get confused by the fact that there is a lock on the book download. Just move on to the table of contents and download the articles individually.
- 3) The previous IFIP Digital Library (dl.ifip.org/) for some non-Springer publications and Springer publications between 2005 and 2012.

Combined, (almost) all IFIP works published with Springer from ca. 2005 to 3 years old are available for open and free access (one way or the other). In addition, many proceedings back till 1995 when KAP became the official IFIP publisher are available (NB.: KAP, the then official IFIP publisher, was merged into Springer in 2004).

- Publications agreement with Springer

The current contract with Springer is valid since January 01, 2020 and until December 31, 2024.

IFIP’s flagship line of publications is IFIP Advances in Information and Communication Technology (IFIP AICT, <http://www.springer.com/series/6102>). Besides the main line IFIP AICT currently has two active sub-lines: Surveys and Tutorials. In addition, several

IFIP publications are published as part of LNBIP and LNCS. In 2018 altogether 45 volumes were published (after 48 in 2017 and 49 in 2016). Income for 2018 had been 50.001 EUR after 60.938 EUR for 2017 and 51.942 EUR for 2016. So, for 2018 the positive trend from 2017 (increase by 17.3 % in EUR) could not be upheld, but a decrease by 17.95 % in EUR occurred. However, 2019 showed a positive development with 56 published volumes and an income of 69.244 EUR. Compared to 2018 this is a raise of more than 24.4 % in published volumes and more than 38.4 % in EUR.

As of 2017 Springer has started inserting society logos on the SpringerLink pages of proceedings resulting from their cooperation with societies. Therefore, the IFIP-logo is being displayed on the bottom of the sections "About these proceedings" (Bibliographic information) and "About this paper" of all IFIP AICT, IFIP LNCS and IFIP LNBIP volumes. Authors and editors can now add their ORCID (Open Researcher and Contributor ID) to their name in all IFIP-AICT proceedings papers.

Access to IFIP publications with Springer (AICT, LNBIP, and LNCS) is as follows:

- All IFIP publications in SpringerLink are becoming cost-free accessible four years after publication. This holds for as long as IFIP has a contract with Springer. It covers the publications since the contract between IFIP and Chapman and Hall (and later Kluwer) back in 1996. So many more of the earlier IFIP publications are now available for free as long as this contract holds. (NB: This is not to be confused with the embargo period for the IFIP Digital Library. After 3 years IFIP can put the author's versions of IFIP publications published with Springer into the IFIP Digital Library.)*
- "Retrodigitized" proceedings are opened after 3 years instead of 4 years. As Springer had retrodigitized many of the older proceedings in 2013, almost all became available during 2016.*
- Publications published under the current and the previous contract (i.e. from 2015 till 2019 and from 2020 till end of 2024) will be accessible cost-free also after the end of any contract with Springer.*

The interaction between a proceedings editor and Springer is subject to all procedures established by IFIP for all IFIP publications. This includes any quality assurance mechanisms established by IFIP. There is a high degree of agreement on quality issues between Springer and IFIP, although some elements in IFIP's policy had needed explanation. To operationally ease the process of quality assurance the members of the AICT Editorial Board are being informed every time when Springer has accepted to start the process of publishing proceedings from an event of "their" TC.

The relation between the IFIP AICT Editorial Board members and the respective TCs is now made explicit both on the Springer IFIP AICT website and the AICT book front matter. The IFIP AICT website also links to detailed information about the 13 series editors organized by the IFIP TC.

Springer is more interested in topically targeted publications than in publications that cover the whole of informatics or computer science.

An IFIP event whose proceedings are published by Springer can receive up to 50 printed copies of the proceedings free of charge except for shipping costs. However, it should be noted, that Springer is moving to the option of temporary, normally four weeks, free access to the publication on SpringerLink instead of this option, so at some point in the future there may be only the option to receive temporary free access to the proceedings in SpringerLink. Springer indeed reduced the default number of complimentary copies to 25; the other 25 copies need to be requested explicitly. This option was only included into the standard information on terms handed to editors (the terms for bulk purchases of conference proceedings) after an explicit request by IFIP. Moreover, Springer will provide free printed copies for post-conference proceedings only, if the files are sent within 9 months after the conference. Otherwise only

temporary free online access is offered. New events in their first two instances are exempted from this restriction.

Springer is currently offering the free use of the iThenticate tool for plagiarism check as a part of the Springer proceedings publication package. The tool is offered on demand to all events publishing with Springer, but as it has costs, Springer does not publicize this widely (also, 90% of the events seem to not really need this). The software checks everything registered at CrossRef (whatever has a DOI – so all serious publications) plus a lot of cites on the web. The tool is not perfect, but to Springer's knowledge the best available.

There are also general trends in Springer's strategies that are worthwhile to note:

- Springer now offers to IFIP a special tariff structure for IFIP events going for immediate open access publications with Springer. If a complete whole volume is made open access the normal net fees are 34 EUR/page; for the first 2 proceedings per year this fee is reduced to net 30 EUR/page, for further ones on the same year to net 28 EUR/page. If single articles are made open access the net price is 42 EU/page.
- Publications on SpringerLink have moved from pdf to an html/e-book compatible format.
- Proceedings can be made available to an event for four weeks around the event dates, normally two weeks prior and two weeks following the event.
- All printing is by "print on demand".
- For institutions who purchased one or more eBook collections from Springer and their people there is a lower quality, black-white only printing option, called "MyCopy" for £24.99 / \$24.99 / € 24.99 / ¥2999 (depending on shipping address) per copy including shipping & handling excluding local VAT/Sales tax where applicable. Details including a list of the ca. 30 countries, where this service is available, can be found on <https://www.springernature.com/gp/librarians/products/ebooks/my-copy>.

Please let the PC know any issues that you see, so that they can be discussed and considered in the work with Springer and for future negotiations.

- **IFIP Select:** An "e-journal" comprising "best" papers from IFIP proceedings. The purpose of IFIP Select is to obtain a better outreach and diffusion of some of the excellent research done in within IFIP TCs and WGs. By doing that and adding some information & discussion on the practice contribution we make the research produced within IFIP available to a much larger audience of national computer societies. IFIP Select is to be a more or less regular compendium of papers from IFIP proceedings that could be of interest to an audience, especially member societies, who could distribute that compendium and see value in it justifying the IFIP membership fee. "Best" is "Best for member societies", i.e. more overview papers than very special ones.

The concept especially includes asking the authors of the selected papers to produce a "cover paper" of 2-3 pages that describes the related scientific paper and its relevance for a more mainstream audience, especially for practitioners and other "typical" members of member societies.

IFIP Select is accessible under www.ifip.org/select and via the IFIP home page. It contains the "cover papers" and links to the full original papers in the IFIP DL or Springer Link or copies of the full papers, if they are not published elsewhere.

A preliminary agreement was reached with Springer that existing papers from Springer Link can be linked in a way enabling cost-free access. These papers are available for 12 months to cover for 2 issues per year.

a) Editorial process

The TC Chairs once a year appoint two published papers from the last 18 months as the best from their TC.

The Editor-in-Chief contacts the authors and asks them to write and add a 2-3 page "How can I apply this? – The practice contribution" aimed at the thousands of members of national and regional Computer Societies (that are members of IFIP). When received this new addition is reviewed by a small Editorial Board (ideally 2 people) appointed by IFIP Publications Committee consisting of representatives from National Societies with a reasonable command of research.

b) Logistics

The journal is to be published electronically 2-3 times a year. In each issue of the journal there are to be 5-7 papers. This means that each TC on average will have 1.5 best papers published per year.

c) Operations till now

Jan Pries-Heje – former Chair of TC 8 – is Editor-in-Chief for the first 3 years. Elizabeth Eastwood has agreed to review the "cover papers" from the perspective of a national computer society representative

The first 2 issues with a total of 10 papers were published in February and December 2019

(https://www.ifip.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=262&Itemid=674)

They contain papers from TCs 3, 8 (6 papers), 9, and 13 (2 papers).

- IFIP TC journals

Three TCs have journals:

- 1) TC-3 Education and Information Technologies, with Springer, <https://link.springer.com/journal/10639>
- 2) TC-11 Computers & Security (COSE, <https://www.journals.elsevier.com/computers-and-security/>) and the International Journal for Critical Infrastructure Protection (IJCIP, <https://www.journals.elsevier.com/international-journal-of-critical-infrastructure-protection/>) with Elsevier.
- 3) TC-14 Entertainment Computing, with Elsevier. <https://www.journals.elsevier.com/entertainment-computing>

The Board discussed the numbers of downloads and views of the content of the Digital Library and **ASKED** the Publications Committee to come up with a monthly statistic about the overall downloads / views and the detailed figures as well.

10. Membership & Marketing

Mr Bramer, chair of the Membership and Marketing Committee presented the report:

After several reminders to the Tunisian and Sri Lankan member societies concerning unpaid membership fees their memberships have been terminated. The Danish member society has also terminated its membership. Attempts to obtain a new member society for Denmark have been unsuccessful. The number of member societies, including Members at Large, is now 38.

Late payment of membership fees by several societies is a perennial problem. As recorded in the minutes of the Executive Committee meeting on May 8th 2020, the member society from Brazil has been allowed two years to pay its membership fee for 2020 because of financial difficulties. It is to be hoped that other member societies do not use this as a precedent.

As I stated in my 2019 report to the Board, 'overall the Federation's membership remains in long-term decline, even though there are far more people involved in the Information Processing field than ever before and despite the introduction of a new category of membership, Member at Large'.

Interviews for a Membership Co-ordination Officer were held at the Federation's headquarters in Laxenburg in January but the interview panel's deliberations proved inconclusive. Following discussion by members of the Executive Committee it was decided not to proceed with an appointment at this time. Shortly afterwards this matter was overtaken by events, in the form of a worldwide pandemic which has led to lockdowns in many countries, drastic reductions or bans on international travel, cancellation of face-to-face events and financial consequences for both IFIP and our member societies that are unpredictable but plainly negative and quite possibly substantially so.

The Federation is already spending considerably more than it brings in each year, relying on substantial income from its investment Fund to make up the difference. However, the future of our investment income is itself in doubt as the Honorary Treasurer will no doubt report. Any further discussion of staffing needs to wait until a new financial model to match the circumstances of the post-Covid-19 world is in place.

Following a series of presentations on the subject of University Affiliates at the 2018 General Assembly in Poznan, a considerable number of discussions in Kiev before and during the 2019 General Assembly and extensive consultation between the two GA meetings, a proposal to amend the Statutes and Bylaws in order to introduce the University Affiliate scheme was brought to the last General Assembly. It became clear during the meeting that there was significant opposition from some of the member society representatives and several of the Technical Committee chairs and the proposal was withdrawn.

In my view the opposition to the University Affiliates proposal is deeply regrettable. I believe that it is essential for the future of our Federation that we diversify our membership by bringing in a wider range of national and international bodies, plus major companies and other organisations and – not least – leading universities. This needs to be done without undermining the position of our national and international member societies and, with goodwill on all sides, this should be achievable. The hostility from some of the Technical Committee chairs was particularly surprising since the only effect of the proposal on TCs would be to give them access to an enhanced pool of technical experts to serve on Working Groups. I see it more as an indication of the growing disconnect between the TC Chairs and the rest of IFIP which has been evident in recent GA meetings. Although not directly a membership issue this disconnect threatens the cohesion of the Federation and needs serious attention.

Despite repeated requests from both myself and Immediate Past President Leon Strous for GA members to suggest potential new member societies, especially National Members at Large, that the Federation can approach proactively and for help in preparing promotional materials, no suggestions or offers of help have so far been received and the number of national Members at Large remains at only one. It is to be hoped that our GA members will take a more positive approach to future proposals to tackle the problem of our long-term declining membership, including proposals for other new types of membership.

The Board **ACCEPTED** the proposal to stop looking for a Membership Co-ordination Officer. Any further discussion of staffing needs to wait until a new financial model to match the circumstances of the post-Covid-19 world is in place.

11. Standing Committees

11.1. *International Liaison Committee*

Mr Hinchey pointed to the President's report, where he already has the Board informed about activities with UNESCO, CSTAD and ITU (WSIS).

11.2. *Service Awards Committee*

Mr Hinchey reported that so far one nomination for the Service Award has arrived.

As the position of a Chair for the Service Awards Committee is open, Mr Hinchey will temporarily act as chair.

11.3. *IFIP Fellow Selection Committee*

Mr Hinchey as temporary chair of the Fellow Selection Committee informed the Board that the planned presentation of the IFIP fellows at the 60th anniversary event in Paris 2020 is postponed to 2021 (together with the new elected awardees of 2020). Certificates will be sent after General Assembly 2020.

12. Digital Equity Committee

Ms Marin-Raventos reported from the Digital Equity Committee that for the time being nobody is using the funds and no requests for this year have arrived so far. She informed the Board that, with consultation of the EC, it has been decided that virtual event could use the funds for inscriptions in place as travel grants.

13. Code of Ethics

Mr Hinchey informed the Board that a booklet for an IFIP Code of Ethics and Professional Conducts from David Kreps has arrived (see <https://www.ifip.org/images/stories/ifip/members/Board2020/CoE/itm14a%20code%20of%20ethics%20booklet.pdf>).

The Board **DECIDED** that Mr Hinchey will send it to IFIP's Member Societies for a review. The topic will be put on the agenda of next General Assembly for decision.

14. Future Meetings

General Assembly 2020:

*The 2020 meeting of the General Assembly will be a virtual meeting held on **Thursday September 24th from 12 noon to 3 p.m. (Vienna time)**. In case the business cannot be completed in the time allocated, the following day, Friday September 25th from noon to 3 p.m. (Vienna time) has been reserved as a 'backup day'.*

Future meetings of the Board and the General Assembly are still provisional, as we cannot be sure when it will be safe to hold face-to-face meetings again and what restrictions on international travel there will be in the coming year.

Board meeting 2021:

The German Informatics Society has confirmed its invitation to host the Board Meeting in Berlin (postponed this year because of the Covid-19 pandemic) to next year on the assumption that it will be possible to hold a face-to-face Board meeting by that time.

GI confirmed already the date: **Tuesday, March 23rd – Wednesday, 24th, 2021.**

General Assembly 2021:

September 2021 in Toulouse, France immediately before the IFIP Jubilee event

IFIP Jubilee Event:

September 20th-28th 2021 in Paris, France, including September 28th at UNESCO.

However, at the time of writing, our French member society has not yet confirmed that it will host the GA in September and although UNESCO has expressed its support for a rearranged event the dates of the Jubilee event have not yet been finalised.

15. Any Other Business

Mr Rannenberg brought up to the Board that two lines in the table (page 26) of IFIP's Bylaws are in conflict with statements elsewhere in the bylaws (Technical Committees / Specialist Group). The conflicting statements have equal status in the bylaws. Which is 'right' in each case is a matter of opinion.

However, these inconsistencies do not invalidate anything else in the table. There are no inconsistencies in the other 'eligibility for officer' lines concerning who is eligible to stand as President, VP, Hon Sec, Hon Treasurer, Councillor, MSA Chair and Technical Assembly Chair.

Mr Bramer, as Chair of the S&B Committee, will make proposals to the General Assembly to remove the inconsistencies.

16. Closing of Meeting

Mr Hinchey thanked everybody for attending this first virtual Board meeting and declared the meeting as closed.