

# IFSA Newsletter, Vol. 13, No. 2, July 2016



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EDITED BY: Ching-Chih Tsai  
VP for publicity

In this issue of IFSA newsletter, some key achievements of the 2016 IFSA Council Meeting held in Vancouver, Canada, on 25 July, were mentioned, and the 2016 new IFSA fellow committee was formed due to the great effort of Prof. Guoqing Chen, IFSA Vice President for Awards. Furthermore, two very prestigious professors in Fuzzy Systems and Logic passed away, and two eulogy articles are written in memory of them. Finally, there are three call-for-papers from three different parties. Hopefully, these messages are informative to you.

## I. 2016 IFSA Council Meeting



Photograph of 2016 IFSA Council Meeting in Vancouver, Canada.

2016 IFSA Council Meeting was held at the Vancouver Marriott Pinnacle Downtown Hotel, 1128 West Hastings Street Vancouver, BC, V6E 4R5, Canada, on 25 July, 2016 . During the meeting, the 2015 council meeting minutes were approved, some related issues for IFSA sponsored conferences were discussed and then recorded, the progress of 2017 IFSA World Congress was reported and some suggestions are given, 2016 IFSA Fellow committee was approved and formed, two suggestions for improving the contents of IFSA website were proposed, and some discussion on changing IFSA from federation to international association was mentioned. Finally, the IFSA dinner was held at the Five Sails restaurant, located on the R Level of the Pan Pacific Hotel, Suite 410 -999 Canada Place, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada.



Photograph of 2016 IFSA Dinner.

## II. 2016 IFSA Fellow Committee Formed

**By Guoqing Chen**

The 2016 IFSA Fellow Committee (briefly referred to as Committee) is a committee that is approved by the IFSA Council and works for selecting the recipients of the Fellow of IFSA, in a term of 4 years.

In a recently launched process for the formation of the new Committee, five nominated candidates, all of whom are themselves the recipients of the Fellow of IFSA, were finally approved to constitute the new Committee as a result of the IFSA Council meeting of July 25, 2016 in Vancouver. Namely, they are (in alphabetic order) Janusz Kacprzyk (Chair), Laszlo

Koczy, Chin-Teng Lin, Ron Yager, and Takeshi Yamakawa.

The new Committee led by the Chair can work now for selecting the recipients of the Fellow of IFSA in line with the IFSA Operating Guidelines, and shall keep smooth communications with the IFSA Council (especially between the Chair and the IFSA President/Vice President for Awards) in due course for its selection activities, outcomes and related briefings.

### **III. In Memory of Professor Yingming Liu**

**By Guoqing Chen**



The IFSA Council and its community at large are saddened to learn of the passing of Professor Yingming Liu on July 15, 2016 in Chengdu China at the age of 76, who was a world-renowned scholar, a Fellow of IFSA, and a pioneer of China's fuzzy logic society. Born in 1940 in Fuzhou city of Fujian Province of China, Yingming Liu graduated from Peking University in 1963 and joined Sichuan University since then. He was granted Academician of Chinese Academy of Science in 1995, and served as Vice President of Sichuan University in 1989-2005.

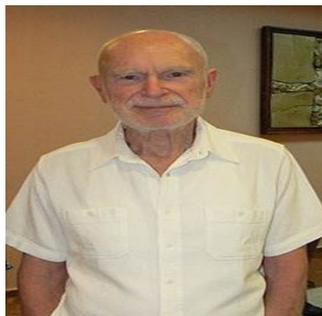
Starting from 1970/80s, Professor Liu was among the greatest of fuzzy mathematics scholars worldwide in contributing to fuzzy topology through a series of innovative efforts, including a fuzzy-point approach to fuzzy topology, a method on stratification structure of mappings, the lattice valued Dieudonne-Tong insertion theorem, simple approximation of multivariate functions, etc. Part of his work was reflected in the monograph "Fuzzy Topology" (co-authored with Maokang Luo) published by World Scientific Publisher in 1997.

Professor Liu had been with IFSA from the early years of IFSA, with remarkable contributions to IFSA in various ways. He served as Vice President of IFSA in 1993-1995, and Member of IFSA Council as the Representative of IFSA China Chapter over decades, while being President and Honorary President of China's fuzzy logic society (FMSAC). Professor Liu was a member of the editorial board of Fuzzy Sets and Systems from 1983 to 2006; and an advisory editor of the journal since 2007. He served as the General Chair of

2005 IFSA World Congress (IFSA2005) in Beijing. There may be no greater memorial tribute to Professor Liu than that his colleagues and students continue working hard as much as he devoted to in fostering the development of IFSA as well as fuzzy set theories and applications in China and the world.

## **IV. Eulogy for Professor George J. Klir**

**By Marek Reformat**



On May 27th, George Klir - our friend and colleague - passed away. This news has saddened everyone who ever worked on fuzzy sets and logic. George was the founding editor of the International Journal of General Systems and author/co-author of multiple books and papers dedicated to: system modelling and simulation, discrete mathematics, intelligent systems, information theory, fuzzy sets and logic, and theory of generalized measures. He influenced many researches working on fuzzy sets and/or applying fuzzy sets to solve numerous problems in variety of areas and domains. For more than 40 years of his academic activities George Klir helped and guided a significant number of undergraduate and graduate students on their paths to achieve their goals and find successful and interesting careers in academia and industry. Many of his previous students and his friends have indicated that 'he was not only a great scientist but also a wonderful man'. He will be remembered as friendly and kind researcher willing to help and support young as well as established researchers. Dear George, you will be missed greatly.

## **In Remembrance of Professor George J. Klir**

**By Ching-Chih Tsai**

Prof. George J. Klir is no longer with us. George Klir was born in 1932 in Prague, Czechoslovakia. In 1957 he received a M.S. degree in Electrical engineering at the Czech Technical University in Prague. In the early 1960s he taught at the Institute of Computer Research in Prague. In 1964 he received a doctorate in computer science from the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences. In the 1960s Klir went to Iraq to teach at the Baghdad University for two years. At the end he managed to immigrate to the U.S. He started

teaching computer science at UCLA and at the Fairleigh Dickinson University. In 1969 he came to Binghamton University, where he later became professor of systems science. One year (1982–1983) he stayed as a fellow in Dutch Netherlands Institute for Advanced Study in the Humanities and Social Sciences (NIAS), where he completed the manuscript of his book *Architecture of Systems Problem Solving*. In 2007 he retired after 37 years at the University.<sup>[1]</sup> One of his doctoral students was Richard Sternberg.

From 1974 to 2014 Klir was editor of the *International Journal of General Systems*, and the *International Book Series on Systems Science and Systems Engineering* since 1985. From 1980 to 1984 George Klir was the first president of the International Federation for Systems Research (IFSR). In the years 1981–1982 he was also president of Society for General Systems Research, now International Society for the Systems Sciences. He was further president of the North American Fuzzy Information Processing Society from 1988 to 1991 and the International Fuzzy Systems Association (IFSA) from 1993 to 1995.

Klir received numerous awards and honors, including 5 honorary doctoral degrees, the Gold Medal of Bernard Bolzano, Lotfi A. Zadeh Best Paper Award, the Kaufmann's Gold Medal, SUNY Chancellor's Award for Excellence in Research and IFSA Award for Outstanding Achievement.<sup>[3]</sup> In 2007 he has been awarded the Fuzzy Systems Pioneer Award of the IEEE Computational Intelligence Society (CIS).

George Klir is known for path-breaking research over almost four decades. His earlier work was in the areas of systems modeling and simulation, logic design, computer architecture, and discrete mathematics. More current research since the 1990s include the areas of intelligent systems, generalized information theory, fuzzy set theory and fuzzy logic, theory of generalized measures, and soft computing. Klir was the author of some 16 books, over three hundred articles, and also edited 10 books. Moreover, he served as the IFSA fellow committee for more than 10 years.

## V. Call for Papers

### 1. Call for Papers of IFSA-SCIS 2017

Joint 17th World Congress of International Fuzzy Systems Association and 9th International Conference on Soft Computing and Intelligent Systems (IFSA-SCIS2017) is organized with the focus of bringing together scientists working on Fuzzy Sets and Soft Computing methods. It also provides a forum for the exchange of ideas between participants all over the world. IFSA-SCIS 2017 will take place in Otsu, Japan on June 27-30, 2017. The scope of this conference covers all aspects of theory and applications in fuzzy systems and soft computing. IFSA-SCIS 2017 is now calling for special session. A special session consists of a group at least four papers with common theme. Special session proposal should include the following information about the special session: the title, a short description of the session,

together with a short biography of the organizers (at most two). International collaborations with the same topics from different countries are welcomed. Thus, the special session has to have papers from at least two different institutions. Please submit your proposals of special sessions before October 15, 2016 to Yasuo Kudo (kudo@csse.muroran-it.ac.jp) or Susana Montes ([montes@uniovi.es](mailto:montes@uniovi.es)).



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**<http://ifsa-scis2017.j-soft.org>**

### Call for Special Session Proposals

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### Important dates

Special Session Proposals: **October 15, 2016**  
 Acceptance of Special Sessions : **November 15, 2016**  
 Paper submission : **January 15, 2017 (23:59 GMT)**  
 Notification of Acceptance : **March 31, 2017**  
 Camera ready Submission : **April 30, 2017**  
 Early registration : **April 30, 2017**



For any questions, [ifsa.scis2017+ask@gmail.com](mailto:ifsa.scis2017+ask@gmail.com)

## 2. Call for Papers of iFUZZY2016

Thanks to technical supports from International Fuzzy Systems Association and other two well-known societies, Taiwan Fuzzy Systems Association, IEEE Systems, Man, and Cybernetics Society and National Chin-Yi University of Science and Technology, work together as co-founders to organize the 2016 international conference on fuzzy theory and its applications (iFUZZY2016) on 9-11 November, 2016. This three-day conference, hosted by National Chin-Yi University of Technology (NCUT), Taichung, Taiwan, is aimed to provide a very good opportunity for research scientists, investigators, industrial practitioners and government representatives to present their results and to exchange their ideas in all aspects

of fuzzy theories, technologies and applications.

In this conference, there are a number of features that you may be interested. They are

1. **Keynote Speakers: Janusz Kacprzyk; Jun Wang; Paul P. Lin.**  
—Details can be seen on <http://cia.csie.ncut.edu.tw/ifuzzy2016/KeynoteSpeech.html>.
2. **Special Issue in International Journal of Fuzzy Systems**  
<http://cia.csie.ncut.edu.tw/ifuzzy2016>  
→Candidate papers will be presented and accept Q/A on site.
3. **AE dinners for International Journal of Fuzzy Systems** →Lots of experts (AEs) are here. Please come to them on site.
4. **Best paper awards:** If you are interested, be sure to click the icon when you submit your papers.

Please come and enjoy those interesting events. All accepted papers will be included in IEEE Xplore (IEL database) and indexed by EI provided that the IEEE required conditions are satisfied. Currently, iFUZZY2016 program committee is soliciting novel research results on fuzzy theory and its applications and related topics. For details of the conference and topics of interest, please visit the conference website at <http://cia.csie.ncut.edu.tw/ifuzzy2016>. Here we sincerely invite all IFSA members to submit papers to this conference and welcome to visit the so-called beautiful island, Taiwan. The current paper submission deadline is July 15. Please be sure to mark you schedule and come to join this great event in Taiwan, a beautiful island in the south-east Asia. For more tour information of Taiwan, please visit the Taiwan Tourism Bureau website: <http://www.tboc.gov.tw>.



### 3. Call for Papers of ARIS 2017

**2017 International Conference on Advanced Robotics and Intelligent Systems (ARIS 2017)**  
**Taipei Nangang Exhibition Center, Taipei, Taiwan, 6-9 September, 2017**

Contact: Ching-Chih Tsai ([cctsai@nchu.edu.tw](mailto:cctsai@nchu.edu.tw))

### Aims and Scope

ARIS 2017 is soliciting novel research results on Advanced Robotics and Intelligent

Systems and related topics. Jointly organized by Robotic Society of Taiwan (RST), Taiwan Automation Intelligence and Robotics Association (TAIROA) and National Chung Hsing University (NCHU), this conference provides an outstanding platform for research scientists, investors, industrial and government representatives to present their results and to exchange ideas. For paper submissions and more information, please visit the conference website at: <http://aris2017.nchu.edu.tw>. The topics cover all aspects of advanced robotics and intelligent systems. During the conference period, you can get free admission to TAIROS 2017, which holds the Taiwan's largest exhibitions on advanced robots with applications, intelligent manufacturing systems, intelligent automation systems, and advanced technology for industry 4.0.



**ARIS 2017 Conference Venue: Taipei Nangang Exhibition Center, Taiwan.**



**Illustration of TAIROS 2017.**

For details of ARIS 2017, please visit the conference website <http://aris2017.nchu.edu.tw>. All accepted papers will be included in IEEE Xplore (IEL database) and indexed by EI provided that the IEEE required conditions are satisfied.

## **Contributions for the Next Issue**

If you are interested in contributing information or articles for the next issue of the IFSA newsletter, please send a word file to [cctsai@nchu.edu.tw](mailto:cctsai@nchu.edu.tw). The deadline for contents appearing on the next issue is September 15, 2016.