

IFSA Newsletter, Vol. 13, No. 3, October 2016



In this issue:

	page
Minutes of 2016 IFSA Council Meeting	1
Call for Papers—	7
1. Call for Papers of IFSA-SCIS 2017	7
2. Call for Papers of iFUZZY2016	8
Contributions for the Next Issue	9

EDITED BY: Ching-Chih Tsai
VP for publicity

In this issue of IFSA newsletter, minutes of the 2016 IFSA Council Meeting held in Vancouver, Canada, 25 July, are reported in detail. Finally, there are two call-for-papers from two different parties. We hope that these messages are informative to you.

I. Minutes of 2016 IFSA Council Meeting



Photograph of 2016 IFSA Council Meeting in Vancouver, Canada, 25 July, 2016.

**International Fuzzy Systems Association
Council Meeting**

**Minutes of Meeting
Monday, 25th July, 2016
Vancouver, Canada**

List of attendees

President	Shun-Feng Su
President elect	Javier Montero
Vice president for award	Guoqing Chen
Vice president for publicity	Ching-Chih Tsai
Treasurer	Hisao Ishibuchi
Past president	Christer Carlsson
Chair of KIIS society	Frank Chung-Hoon Rhee
Chair of TFSA society	Kao-Shing Hwang
Chair of NSAIS society	Pasi Luukka
Chair of NAFIPS society	William Melek
Chair of HFA society	Laszlo Koczy
Chair of HAFSA society	Patricia Melin
Chair of ICSC society	M. -R. Akbarzadeh
behalf of Prof. Isao Hayashi	Yusuke Nojima

Before the council meeting:

In Memory of Professor Yingming Liu (Prof. Guoqing Chen gave a short talk about Prof. Yingming Liu to all of council members.)

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.

In Memory of Professor Janos Fodor (Prof. Laszlo Koczy gave a short talk about Prof. Janos Fodor to all of council members.)

I have to communicate a very sad news. Janos Fodor, one of the best known and most cited Hungarian fuzzy researchers passed away some months ago. He had long fought with the disease and his last months he spent in sick bed (hospital and at home, but under daily hospital treatment). He had been the Rector (=President) of Obuda University for about two years but a few months before his passing away he had to resign because of his health condition.

He contributed very essentially to fuzzy mathematics, among others he was author of the most important monograph on fuzzy precedence relations (J. Fodor and M. Roubens, Fuzzy Preference Modelling and Multicriteria Decision Support (Kluwer Academic Publishers, Dordrecht, 1994), 272 p.) He published a large amount of mathematical and theoretical papers on fuzzy. He used to be the President of the Hungarian Fuzzy Association (that I founded in 1990), a member of IFSA.

We also did some joint work in the past, a paper dealing with preference relations and fuzzy flip-flops and I lost a long time friend and colleague in him.

Let him rest in peace.

Eulogy for Professor George J. Klir (By Marek Reformat not present on site)

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.

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. One of his doctoral students was Richard Sternberg.

Council Meeting:

- Confirmation of the 2015 council meeting minutes.** The minutes of 2015 council meeting has been approved from all attendees in council meeting on 25th July 2016.
- Report of the Treasurer on IFSA financial status.**

Received a report by Hisao Ishibuchi. The detail as bellowed.

Organisation	Country	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	Organisation	Country	
1 SOFT	Japan	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1 SOFT	Japan	
2 TFSA	Taiwan	983	1000	980	982	998	1000	998	1000	1000	1000	1000	2 TFSA	Taiwan	
3 KIIS	Korea	1000	985	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	*1)	3 KIIS	Korea	
4 FMSAC	China	200	200	200	200	225	200	210	210	210	200	200	4 FMSAC	China	
5 EUSFLAT	Europe	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	5 EUSFLAT	Europe	
6 NAFIPS	Canada	200	200	200	353	200	200	200	194	200	200	200	6 NAFIPS	Canada	
7 SBA	Brazil	188	190	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	7 SBA	Brazil	
8 VFSS (Cat.D.)	Vietnam												8 VFSS (Cat.D.)	Vietnam	
9 SIGEF	Spain		200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	9 SIGEF	Spain	
10 HFA	Hungary	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	10 HFA	Hungary	
11 FIRST	Thailand	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	11 FIRST	Thailand	
12 NS AIS	Finland	200	143	257	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	12 NS AIS	Finland	
13 HAFSA	Mexico		200	200	200	194				200	200	*3)	13 HAFSA	Mexico	
14 RAFSSoftCom	Russia			200	200	200				200	200		14 RAFSSoftCom	Russia	
15 FSAT	Turkey				200	200	200			175	188		15 FSAT	Turkey	
16 SC-INA	Indonesia					200	200	200	200				16 SC-INA	Indonesia	
17 ICSC	Iran					200	200	200	195	200	200	200	*4)	17 ICSC	Iran
Total		4371	4918	5637	5735	5417	4795	4208	4610	4979	3388		(4) at WCCI 2016.		
IFSA Total Capital		Spending													
2015.06.23	150,939.08	Euro		2015.07.01	1,198.44	Euro (IFSA Dinner)									
2016.05.06	155,663.39	Euro													

- Report of the vice president for Conference (Wen-June Wang, represented by Kao-Shing Hwang).**

Some rules for whether to sponsor conferences by IFSA have been decided as following:

- For full sponsorship by IFSA will be examined case by case in the council meeting (or electronic voting by council members).
- For technical sponsorship, it can be determined by the VP for conference. Some general rules are stated in the following.
- The topics included in the conferences are not limited in “fuzzy,” as long as it is fuzzy-related topics, for example, Soft Computing, Machine Learning, and so on.
- Papers of the supported conferences have to be reviewed by at least two reviewers.
- The minimum number of attendees of the supported conferences is not required.
- The conference that gets the IFSA technical sponsorship can use the IFSA’s logo and

- IFSA website will announce the corresponding CFP once request.
7. Supported conferences should provide registration discount for the member of IFSA and promote IFSA and the related activities once asked by IFSA.
 8. IFSA should promote the supported conferences for all institutional members and the CFPs of the conference should be sent to all institutional members. But, IFSA does not financially support the “best paper award” because it is not easy to control the quality of the awarded papers.
- **Report of IFSA world congress 2017 (Isao Hayashi).**
Received a presentation from Yusuke Nojima (on behalf of Prof. Isao Hayashi). The slides of IFSA world 2017 is attached. There are some suggestions from council members as following:
 1. It is better to include more IFSA council members into the IFSA world congress 2017 committees.
 2. It is confirmed that the conference will provide necessary support for the IFSA president and the president-elect to cover their travel and accommodation to attend the conference.
 3. The IFSA Logo should be used in all related documents and media, like website, call for papers, and publications (proceeding and digest).
 - **Report of the Vice President on awards (Guoqing Chen).**
There are four IFSA awards refer to IFSA operating guideline, 1) IFSA Fellow; 2) IFSA student paper award; 3) IFSA award for outstanding paper petitions; and 4) IFSA Elsevier young researcher award.
 1. IFSA Fellow: IFSA Fellows are evaluated by the IFSA fellow committee. This committee should be re-elected each four years. The nearest election was in 2005. After a period of call for nomination, we have so far 5 eligible persons as candidates. After discussion, we approved that those 5 persons will be new members of IFSA fellow committee. They are (in alphabetic order) Janusz Kacprzyk, Laszlo Koczy, Chin-Teng Lin, Ron Yager, and Takeshi Yamakawa. According to past experience, the council meeting also assigns the committee chair. Janusz Kacprzyk is appointed as the fellow committee chair. The VP for award will communicate with them to announce the details for the fellow nomination procedure in the next issue of the IFSA newsletter.
 2. The IFSA student paper award and IFSA outstanding paper award still refer to operating guideline. The VP for award will announce the details for those awards in the next issue of the IFSA newsletter.
 3. There is no funding for the IFSA Elsevier young researcher award. The VP for award will contact with Prof. Witold Pedrycz to find some clues for this issue.
 - **Report on IFSA publicity related issues (Ching-Chih Tsai)**
For the first work, two issues of IFSA newsletters have been published. The second issue in 2016 will be completed in the end of July. For the second work, we have improved our IFSA website in order to assure visibility. By clicking the website address at <http://isdlab.ie.ntnu.edu.tw/ntust/ifsa/pages>, you are able to find some updating IFSA news or related information. Like its old version established by Prof. Shun-Feng Su (currently the IFSA President), the website menu includes similar items, such as Home page, Call for nominations-IFSA Award, About IFSA 2016, News, Historical Newsletters, IFSA Co-Sponsored Conferences, The Council, IFSA Fellows, SIG, Researchers, Who is Who in Fuzzy, Membership Info, Constitution, By-Laws, Operating

Guidelines, and Conference Information. We have been regularly updating the website contents according to our collections of any new and useful messages for IFSA or any news and opinions from all of you. Although the website contents have been updated in some details, much work remains to be done. For example, as suggested by our President-Elect, Prof. Javier Montero, we hope to have all the links to active fuzzy associations in the near future. Furthermore, as presented by Prof. Chister Carlsson (IFSA Past President) during the iFuzzy 2015 conference period, the SIG content could be significantly improved by including more special interest groups, and the members content would have the connection with the Scholarmate.

Prof. M. –R. Akbarzadeh suggested that the domain name of the IFSA website should be renewed as a high-impression name. It will be welcome to provide a domain name. If anyone has it, please inform Prof. Tsai. We will renew it.

Prof. Chister Carlsson suggest that IFSA website should be linked to all societies. Besides, it is suggested that we can encourage all IFSA members to join the scholarmate. Once the link is provided to Prof. Tsai, it will be announced through the IFSA channel. If any researches and activities are required to promote, please contact with Prof. Tsai. We will announce it on the IFSA Newsletter.

- **Call for nomination for all positions in 2017. (Christer Carlsson)**
The IFSA VP and the Secretary are reelected every two years and the IFSA Treasurer is reelected every four years. In 2017, we need to reelect all positions including the President for 2019. We should announce the nomination details for all positions before early September, 2016, and ask for nominations in the end of this year.
- **Motions: Updates of IFSA Bylaws - Discussion of changing IFSA from federation to international association. (Christer Carlsson)**
After discussion, we conclude that it is complicated issue and will take a long time if we want to change IFSA from a federation to an international association. We shall create a forum on the website to discuss this issue. If anyone has suggestions and questions, please leave them on this forum. Hopefully, we can continue this discussion in the next council meeting.
- **Task force report: A strategic analysis for the period 2015-2019 (Javier Montero)**
Since no actual motion is proposed, we only had some general discussions. Hopefully, the task force can come up with more motions so that the council can make some decisions in the next council meeting in Japan. Please leave your motions or ideas in forum or email to Prof. Javier Montero.

15:00: Council Meeting Adjourned

**Tuesday, July 26, 2016 7:00 pm: IFSA Dinner
Five Sails, Located on the R Level of the Pan Pacific Hotel,
Suite 410 - 999 Canada Place, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada)**

II. 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.

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

Call for Special Session Proposals

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)**.

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



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2. 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)

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.

III. 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. The deadline for contents appearing on the next issue is December 15, 2016.