

## Condolences on Prof. Toshiro Terano's Death

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I wish to inform all of you with deep regret and sorrow that Professor Toshiro Terano passed away due to heart failure at home on February 15. We have lost a great leader of our research community.

Born in 1922, Professor Terano graduated from the Graduate School of the University of Tokyo in 1947 and got a position at the Ministry of Transportation where he started his research career in the area of control engineering. He developed a mathematical model of once-through boilers called "Terano Model". He was one of the founders of Society of Instrument and Control Engineers in Japan.

In 1962 he joined the Department of Control Engineering, Tokyo Institute of Technology, as a professor. His research interest gradually shifted from control engineering to systems engineering and then he extended his research into fuzzy systems. He initiated the Working Group on Fuzzy Systems in Tokyo in 1972. He was also one of the founders of IFSA in 1984 and SOFT (Japan Society for Fuzzy Theory and Systems) in 1989. He organized the second IFSA World Congress in Tokyo in 1987.

Professor Terano retired from Tokyo Institute of Technology in 1982 and moved to Hosei University. From 1989 to 1994, he was the director of LIFE (Laboratory for International Fuzzy Engineering Research). LIFE showed the great power and possibility of fuzzy theory to the world. He also served as the president of IFSA from 1991 to 1993.

Over the last thirty years, the research of Professor Terano was focused on fuzzy theory and its applications to systems engineering. He promoted a new research area "Fuzzy Engineering". In this direction, he organized IFES (International Fuzzy Engineering Symposium) in Yokohama in 1991 and 1994; the second IFES was held with FUZZ-IEEE.

Professor Terano was truly a father of the fuzzy researchers in Japan and a world-wide leader. He was a good friend of the late Professor Kokichi Tanaka who was also a father of the Japanese fuzzy researchers.

Besides many paper awards, Professor Terano received the Moisil Prize in 1993 and the Kampé de Fériet Prize in 1996. He was decorated with the Order of the Sacred Treasure, Gold Rays with the Neck Ribbon from the Japanese Government in 1997.

I remember when I joined as a research associate of Professor Terano's Laboratory at Tokyo Institute of Technology. It was forty years ago in 1965. He gave me an opportunity to study fuzzy sets theory. Since then, he had been my true teacher and had encouraged me in continuing my research work against many criticisms. I remember Professor Terano's ever present kindness and open-mindedness. He always believed the bright future of our fuzzy theory.

We in Japan and across the globe who know Professor Terano shall miss his wise counsel. We wish to extend to Professor Terano's family our deepest condolences.

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## **SBA: BRAZILIAN SOCIETY FOR AUTOMATION**

The Brazilian Society for Automation (SBA) was established in 1975 with the initial aim of promoting the development of automatic control and its applications, in a broad sense, in Brazil. Since then, SBA has enlarged its scope, thus becoming the main reference point for scientists and specialists operating in the areas of Robust Control, Process Control, Robotics, Industrial Informatics, Electric Power Systems, Power Electronics, Signal Processing, Biomedical Engineering, Computational Intelligence, Industrial Automation, and Education in Control.

SBA is a non-profit organisation formed by Brazilian researchers, specialists and students. The Society governance consists of a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary, a Treasurer and a six-member Council, who are elected every two years by all SBA members.

The Society supports the creation of Technical Committees, which can be formed upon request from at least twelve members. There are currently four committees in operation: Power Systems, Power Electronics, Intelligent Systems, and Industrial Automation.

SBA is responsible for a scientific journal, *Controle & Automação*, published quarterly and distributed to all its members. *Controle & Automação* is a peer-reviewed publication and accepts high-standard papers in English, Portuguese, and Spanish. It is indexed by INSPEC and Compendex Plus and is published in electronic format by SciELO.

The Society is directly responsible for two national events, the Brazilian Congress on Automation and the Brazilian Symposium on Intelligent Automation, which occur in alternate years. The Brazilian Congress on Automation has taken place since 1976 and had its 15<sup>th</sup> edition in 2004, with a record number of nearly 600 papers presented, out of more than 1000 submissions. It has become the main forum for Brazilian researchers and students whose interests are in areas normally associated with, but not restricted to, Electrical Engineering. Sessions on fuzzy control, neural and neuro-fuzzy systems, genetic algorithms and other computational intelligence techniques have gradually become a relevant part of this event. The Brazilian Symposium on Intelligent Automation is a newer event – its 7<sup>th</sup> edition will occur in September 2005 – and brings together researchers and scientists interested in Industrial Automation and Intelligent Systems in general, including Fuzzy Systems, Neural Networks, Evolutionary Programming, and related areas. SBA also acts as a sponsor of relevant scientific events, upon approval of its Directors and Council. Among the events supported by SBA, it is worth mentioning the Brazil-Japan Joint Symposium on Fuzzy Systems in 1994 and the IFSA '95 World Congress, which took place in São Paulo, Brazil.

The Brazilian Society for Automation is a member of IFAC – International Federation of Automatic Control – and an institutional member of IFSA, on whose council it has a representative.

## NEW FUZZY FELLOWS SELECTED

Notice From Ronald R. Yager Chairman of the Fuzzy Fellows Committee

In order to bestow recognition on people who have made outstanding contributions to the field of fuzzy sets and related disciplines, the International Fuzzy Systems Association has created the Designation of Fuzzy Fellow. Criteria for selection of the title Fuzzy Fellow is based upon outstanding technical contributions, pioneering applications, and support and development of the infrastructure of the fuzzy community. As chairman of the Fuzzy Fellows Committee I am happy to announce the following people have been added to the Society of Fuzzy Fellows:

Piero Bonissone	(USA)
Bernadette Bouchon-Meunier	(France)
Christer Carlsson	(Finland)
Yingming Liu	(China)
Witold Pedrycz	(Canada)
Tomohiro Takagi	(Japan)
Takeshi Yamakawa	(Japan)

The awarding of their certificates will be made at the IFSA Conference in Beijing by the current IFSA President Z. Zenn Bien. Below is a listing of the members of this fellowship who they will join:

Kiyoji Asai	Jim Bezdek	Didier Dubois
Joseph Goguen	Madan Gupta	Kaoru Hirota
Ulrich Hohle	Abe Kandel	Janus Kacprzyk
Peter Klement	George Klir	Rudolf Kruse
Abraham Mamdani	Masaharu Mizumoto	Fred Petry
Henri Prade	Dan Ralescu	Enrique Ruspini
Elie Sanchez	Michio Sugeno	Hideo Tanaka
Settimo Termini	Enrique Trillas	I. Burhan Turksen
Ronald Yager	Lotfi Zadeh	Hans Zimmerman.