

## Who's Who in IFAC: Council Member Derong Liu

Derong Liu received the B.S. degree in mechanical engineering from the East China Institute of Technology (now Nanjing University of Science and Technology), Nanjing, China, in 1982, the M.S. degree in automatic control theory and applications from the Institute of Automation of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing, China, in 1987, and the Ph.D. degree in electrical engineering from the University of Notre Dame, Indiana, US, in 1994.

Dr. Liu was a product design engineer with China North Industries Corporation, Jilin, China, from 1982 to 1984. He was an instructor with the Graduate School of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, Beijing, from 1987 to 1990. He was a staff fellow with General Motors Research and Development Center from 1993 to 1995. He was an assistant professor with the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, Stevens Institute of Technology, from 1995 to 1999. He joined the University of Illinois at Chicago (US) in 1999, and became a full professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering and of Computer Science in 2006. He was selected for the "100 Talents Program" by the Chinese Academy of Sciences in 2008. He has published 15 books (six research monographs and nine edited volumes).



**Derong Liu**

Dr. Liu was an associate editor of *Automatica* from 2006 to 2009. Currently, he is a distinguished lecturer of the IEEE Computational Intelligence Society and he is the editor-in-chief of the IEEE Transactions on Neural Networks and Learning Systems. He also serves as an associate editor of *Soft Computing*, *Neurocomputing*, *Neural Computing and Applications*, and *Science in China Series F: Information Sciences*. He was an associate editor of the IEEE Transactions on Circuits and Systems-I: Fundamental Theory and Applications from 1997 to 1999, the IEEE Transactions on Signal Processing from 2001 to 2003, the IEEE Transactions on Neural Networks from 2004 to 2009, the IEEE Computational Intelligence Magazine from 2006 to 2009, and the IEEE Circuits and Systems Magazine from 2008 to 2009, and the letters editor of the IEEE Transactions on Neural Networks from 2006 to 2008.

Awards and honors that Dr. Liu has received include the Faculty Early Career Development Award from the National Science Foundation in 1999, the University Scholar Award from Uni-

versity of Illinois from 2006 to 2009, and the Overseas Outstanding Young Scholar Award from the National Natural Science Foundation of China in 2008. He is a Fellow of the IEEE and a Fellow of the International Neural Network Society.

Derong Liu (CN) is serving as an Ordinary Member of the IFAC Council for the 2014-2017 triennium.

## MICNON 2015 St. Petersburg, Russia 24-26 June 2015

The 1st (Inaugural) IFAC Conference on Modelling, Identification and Control of Nonlinear Systems (MICNON 2015) took place on June 24-26, 2015 in Saint Petersburg, Russia. MICNON 2015 attracted a lot of interest: 265 submissions from 41 countries, including 6 invited sessions. After rigorous reviewing, 212 invited and contributed papers were included into the final program, which equals to acceptance rate 80%. More than 200 participants were registered. The countries leading in the number of registrants were Russia (94), China (12), Germany (12), France (9), Japan (9), USA (9), Slovakia (6), Austria (5), Italy (5), Mexico (5), Sweden (5).

MICNON 2015 gives start to the new series of the IFAC conferences covering all areas of nonlinear systems theory and applications in science and engineering, including control of nonlinear systems, analysis of nonlinear systems, modelling and identification of nonlinear systems and all types of applications in connection to nonlinear systems. The richness and diversity of the technical program is a sign of demand of the community and growth of interest in the area of nonlinear systems. The outstanding list of exceptional plenary speakers (Karl Åström, Roger Brockett, David Hill, Rudi Kalman, and Boris Polyak) made this conference really special.

There were a number of sessions dedicated to applications: Flight Control, Control of Electro-Mechanical Systems, Process Control, Control of Robots. Two sessions were dedicated to Networked Systems and Control of Networks.

The conference was dedicated to the memory of Vladimir Yakubovich, one of the founders of the modern control theory. There was a special track (27 papers) in honor of Vladimir Yakubovich: two Historical Sessions "Essays and Recollections" three Invited Sessions: KYP Lemma and Relevant Issues, Optimal and Adaptive Control, Nonlinear Stability and Oscillations. A special talk "The Legacy of Vladimir Yakubovich" was given by Alexander Fradkov. In ad-

dition a CD-collection of the research papers and books coauthored by V.A.Yakubovich was presented to each registered participant.

The conference took place in Saint Petersburg, the former capital and a historical scientific center of Russia, and one of the most beautiful cities in the world. Two sponsoring universities, Saint Petersburg State University and ITMO University, provided the venue for the conference in Vassilievsky Island, in the bottom of the historical center of Saint Petersburg. The location allowed the participants to participate in some sightseeing after the sessions.



**Rudolf Kalman  
at MICNON 2015**

The organization of a conference like this is impossible without the help of many people. The organizers express their sincere thanks to the many contributors, the reviewers and in particular to the members of the National Organizing Committee and the International Program Committee for their great help and support. Furthermore we would like to express our sincere thanks to the members of the Department of Control Systems and Informatics of the ITMO University and members of the Department of Theoretical Cybernetics of the Saint Petersburg State University for their wonderful help with the local arrangements.



**Vladimir Yakubovich**

There were two invited sessions related to the history of control: namely, sessions dedicated to the memory of Prof. Vladimir Yakubovich. There were eminent scholars among participants including: R. Kalman, A. Isidori, R. Brockett, A. Lindquist, and D. Hill. The sessions were recorded and are available to view on the IFAC YouTube Channel. The plenary and historical sessions were open for all students of SPbSU and ITMO Universities.

IPC Chair Frank Allgöwer, IPC Co-Chair Alexander Fradkov, and NOC Chair Alexey Bobtsov