IFIP community activities, achievements and possibilities for your Society
Written by: Professor, Dr. Anatolii Marushchak, IFIP General Secretary,
International Federation for Information Processing (IFIP)

Dear IFIP Member Society President & CEO/ Secretary,
(cc IFIP GA representative).

As a part of IFIP Secretariat's ongoing commitment to provide exceptional value and services to IFIP members, I would like to briefly update you on some of the IFIP community activities, recent achievements and some possibilities for your Society to benefit from your membership in IFIP.

IFIP welcomed and congratulated new Member Presidents in Brazil - Thais Vasconcelos Batista, South Africa - Senele Goba, Zimbabwe - Joice Benza, Nigeria - Muhammad Sirajo Aliyu, Slovenia - Slavko Žitnik, Italy - Antonio Piva, UK – Alastair Revell, Australia - Helen McHugh. Recently in IFIP Insights (news), in conjunction with ITU's 2024 "Leadership" theme for Girls in ICT day, IFIP congratulated and celebrated with four women Presidents of Member Societies on 25 April.

IFIP also welcomed and congratulated the new IFIP Technical Committee (TC) Chairs: TC2, TC5, TC8, TC9, TC11, TC13 and TC14. The current membership of IFIP Technical Committees is here. The chairs from 12 countries manage internationally more than 6000 scientists in Academia and Industry, across over 100 Technical Working Groups on a wide range of ICT subject-matters:

- Luis Soares Barbosa (PT), TC1 Chair - Foundations of Computer Science.
- Jacques Carettes (CA), TC2 Chair - Software - Theory and Practice.
- Don Passey (UK), TC3 Chair – Education.
- Dimiter Velev (BG), TC5 Chair – Information Technology Applications.
- Burkhard Stiller (CH), TC6 Chair – Communication Systems.
- Lukasz Stettner (PL), TC7 Chair – System Modeling and Optimization.
- Jolita Ralyte (CH), TC8 Chair – Information Systems.
- Robert Davison (HK), TC9 Chair – ICT and Society.
- Achim Rettberg (DE), TC10 Chair – Computer Systems Technology.
- Paul Haskell-Dowland (AUS), TC11 Chair – Security and Privacy Protection in Information Processing Systems.
- Eunika Mercier-Laurent (FR), TC12 Chair – Artificial Intelligence.
- Paula Kotze (ZA), TC13 chair – Human-Computer Interaction.
- Esteban Clua (BR), TC14 Chair – Entertainment Computing.

When you appoint/change your Society national representative in IFIP TCs please kindly cc Secretariat (ifip@ifip.org and the IFIP General Secretary).

Swiss Informatics Society (SI) celebrated its 40th Anniversary on 17 November 2023 in Bern, with a Conference on "Using DNA for storage", "Post-quantum cryptography", and the "Future of IT". IFIP was represented by VP Jacques Sakarovitch and General Secretary Anatolii Marushchak. IFIP extends our congratulations to Francis Baud, President of the Swiss Informatics Society (SI) on his re-election in May 2024.

On 26-27 March 2024, the IFIP Board met in Toronto, Canada, hosted by the Canadian Information Processing Society (CIPS) - Canada's Association of IT Professionals. IFIP and President Anthony Wong acknowledged and expressed warmest thanks and gratitude to CIPS and the Chair of the CIPS National Board, Trevor McDonald, CEO Greg Lane, COO Mary Jean and IFIP CIPS representative Margaret Havey for their hospitality and for hosting IFIP.

CIPS also hosted a Joint Working Session with IFIP and the Chair of IFIP's Task Force on Climate Change, Raimundo Macedo on: "How can IT be used to address societal issues especially as regards to the environment and global warming? Raimundo Macedo provided an overview of the Task Force initial findings, after which attendees had the opportunity to present their respective countries' top three initiatives on climate change. The IFIP Task Force is exploring challenges and opportunities in using digital technologies to combat climate change and its impacts, in alignment with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

IFIP Digital Equity Committee (DEC)
The IFIP Digital Equity Committee (DEC) has a new Charter, chaired by Past President Leon Strous. Some of DEC's activities include:

- Initiating the development of and/or create a framework for IFIP doctoral consortia/webinars. A particular emphasis will be on benefits for young researchers and professionals from developing and emerging countries.
- Acting as a promotor of IFIP doctoral consortia / webinars and other activities focussing on enabling the participation of young researchers and young professionals from developing and emerging countries and/or underprivileged communities.
- Acting as a coordinating committee that identifies programs / activities of UN agencies in relation to digital equity and sustainable development with potential for IFIP participation.
- Engaging with IFIP bodies and IFIP member societies to encourage and initiate activities / events aimed at achieving digital equity and sustainable development.
- Providing assistance for the effective operations of ICT societies in general, including non-IFIP members, to strengthen their effectiveness in achieving digital equity and sustainable development.

Please contact IFIP General Secretary and Leon Strous, if your Society would like to collaborate with IFIP on digital equity and sustainable development activities.

IFIP Awards
Nominations are being called for the following IFIP awards:
Auerbach Award 2024
IFIP Fellow 2024
IFIP Service Award 2024

Nominations are open until 15 June 2024. Nominations for the Auerbach and Service awards can only be made by General Assembly members through the secure area. Nomination for Fellowships can be submitted by anyone, except the person

nominated or members of the Fellow Selection Committee. Nominations must also include details of five referees who must be current members of an IFIP Working Group, Technical Committee or the General Assembly.

IFIP and UN Agencies
IFIP is recognized by the United Nations and other world bodies, with consultative status with the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) , UNESCO, and ITU. IFIP is a supporting partner of the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) and collaborates with the UN Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD) and with UNIDO.

Our Congratulations to the Ambassador of Gambia to Switzerland & to the UN Organisations at Geneva, H.E. Amb.Prof.Muhammadou M.O. Kah, Ph.D on his appointment as the Chair of the United Nations Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD) at the 27th Session of the United Nations Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD) held recently at the Palais des Nations in Geneva.

Ambassador Kah is an Extraordinary Diplomat, Academic, Technologist and Banker. He has served as Vice Chair for Africa at the UN Human Rights Council (UNHRC) and previously held the position of Vice Chair of CSTD. Professor Kah has also held significant roles, including as Chair of the African Group of Ambassadors in Geneva, Vice Chair at the WIPO General Assembly and have also been involved in several IFIP Technical Committees and Working Groups. We extend our warmest congratulations to Amb.Prof.Muhammadou M.O. Kah, Ph.D.

Some of IFIP's activities with the UN agencies include:

- A MoU with the ITU (International Telecommunications Union) AI for Good program to increase its scale and impact.
- IFIP partnered with the Internet Governance Forum (IGF) and the UN Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD) in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. IFIP President Anthony Wong introduced and moderated a panel session, which explored issues relating to "Ethics and Regulation of Emerging Technologies and Artificial Intelligence".
- IFIP President addressed the 26th Session of the United Nations Commission on Science and Technology for Development (CSTD) at the Palais des Nations in Geneva.
- In cooperation with UNESCO and ACS, IFIP President Anthony Wong organised and moderated a recent global webinar on the use of Indigenous data, art and materials by Generative AI.
- ACM Fellow, former BCS President, and Co-Chair of the ACM Publications Board, Dame Wendy Hall was nominated to the UN AI Advisory Board.
- Professor Don Passey, chair of TC 3 (Education) participated in the UNESCO Paris discussion on "Concerning Education for International Understanding, Co-operation and Peace, and Education relating to Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms".
- Past President Leon Strous participated in the meeting of the UNESCO's Intergovernmental Council for the Information for all Programme (IFAP).

- IFIP General Secretary, Professor Anatolii Marushchak participated in a discussion at the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) "Inclusive AI – Bridging the Digital Divide in Industry and Manufacturing".

WSIS 2024

IFIP have contributed to the World Summit for Information Society (WSIS) over many years including formal recognition as a "Supporting Partner". WSIS is co-organized by ITU, UNESCO, UNDP, UNCTAD and the Swiss Confederation.

A team from IFIP will once again participate at the hybrid WSIS:

- IP3 session "**Re" Generative AI - Using Artificial and Human Intelligence in tandem for innovation**" on 28 May 2024**.
- TC11 event "**Building confidence and security in connected IT systems**" on May 29 2024.
- IFIP President invited to participate in the UNESCO panel on **"The Future of AI in the Judiciary"** on May 29 2024.
- UNESCO panel on on the importance of promoting universal access to information and knowledge on May 29 2024.
- TC12 panel discussion on "**Synergy Human-AI for complex problem-solving**" on May 30 2024.
- IFIP President invited to participate in the UNESCO panel WSIS Action Line C7 **"E-science: Assessment of progress made over the last 20 years"** on May 30 2024.

The full agenda for WSIS can be viewed here. As with all UN events, attendance is free, but registration is required (for onsite or virtual attendance). We encourage you and your Member Society to attend these sessions.

Other IFIP news.

- IFIP IP3 completed the reaccreditation of two national societies, ACS (Australian Computer Society) and IPSJ (Information Processing Society of Japan).
- IFIP President Anthony Wong met with the Presidents of IFIP Member, Danish Federation for Information Processing (DANFIP), CEPIS, Brazilian Computing Society, Swiss Informatics Society, ACM President Yannis Ioannidis, to discuss mutual collaborations.
- The Slovak Society for Computer Science successfully applied for external financial support to cover expenditures on hosting General Assembly 2023.
- The Australian Computer Society hosted the IFIP Strategy Day at the offices of the ACS in Barangaroo in Sydney, Australia in April 2023.
- IFIP President Anthony Wong and General Secretary Anatolii Marushchak met with The International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA) and the International Federation of Automatic Control (IFAC) in Laxenburg, Austria to discuss future collaborations.

- IFIP Task Force on the Climate Change and Digital Technology developing its report to be presented in 2024.
- IFIP is developing cooperation with Association for Information Systems Association (aisnet.org).
- IFIP is developing collaboration with Heidelberg Laureate Foundation. Each year 200 selected young researchers from all over the world are sponsored to spend a week in Heidelberg interacting and networking to encourage scientific exchange with recipients of the most prestigious awards in mathematics and computer science, including the Abel Prize, ACM A.M. Turing Award, and ACM Prize in Computing.

<u>Usual and additional benefits for IFIP Member Society.</u>
We would like your Society to consider the next possibilities to enhance your Society's capacity, success and reach, and to achieve your goals and objectives with the help of the wider IFIP community.

1. IFIP can provide a support letter for your Member Society in case you would like to apply for international or governmental support.
2. IFIP networks and activities with ITU, UNESCO, UNIDO, and ECOSOC might be useful to your Society, for instance, in the technological development of your country.
3. The Presentation of the IFIP Task Force's "Sustaining relevant digital inclusive education for young people (5-18 years of age)" results to the wider international community could be of benefit to your Member Society.
4. The results of the IFIP Task Force on the Climate Change and Digital Technology could provide additional opportunities for funding through World Bank and other donors.
5. Accreditation from IP3, the International Professional Practice Partnership, which defines international standards of professionalism in ICT worldwide, could be another benefit for your Member Society in developing Skills Recognition and Certification of your ICT professionals in your country/ region with government and industry.
6. Your Society could be engaged or even launch an IFIP program for increasing women's interest in computing. The other IFIP Member Society, the Institute of Information Technology Professionals South Africa, for instance, is focusing its efforts on addressing the gender imbalance in the IT sector and is stepping up the work of its Women in IT (WIIT) Chapter in line with this.
7. Your Society can access and contribute to a wealth of information held in IFIP Digital Library, for instance, applying for an open access projects funding.
8. The discount for participation in IFIP events is at least 10% on registration fees for all individual members of your Society.
9. The possibility of publishing in Springer publications which is a great benefit for individual members of your Society pursuing their academic career.

Please revert if you need direct contacts with the IFIP leaders of mentioned initiatives or any other support from my side.

Many IFIP conferences and other events generate proceedings published by the IFIP publisher. IFIP publishes the proceedings of conferences sponsored by IFIP and

books and other documents resulting from IFIP-sponsored activities. IFIP does not publish proceedings or other documents from events or activities that are not sponsored by IFIP.

To organise a new IFIP event please fill in IFIP event request form following the instructions here.

Open Access to IFIP Publications is currently realized via IFIP Digital Library.

We also invite you to connect with IFIP through social media to stay up to date on the latest IFIP news. Please consider the following IFIP profiles:

- LinkedIn
- Facebook
- X (twitter.com)

Hashtag IFIP accounts in your posts and IFIP Secretariat will interact with you on these platforms, particularly disseminating your Society posts to the wider IFIP community.

Please register to receive the latest news in IFIP Insights by email monthly. For posting your Society news in IFIP Insights please provide articles of 200-500 words in length along with any relevant photos to Caroline New by emailing caroline@quantumvalues.com. Articles can range from news about your recent or upcoming activities, announcements or calls for papers relating to conferences or workshops, election outcomes or award results, opinion pieces, blog posts and more.

Finally, it would be much appreciated if you could inform IFIP Secretariat on your Society's leadership changes following internal elections.

We do look forward to further collaborate with your Society in listed directions and beyond.

Best regards,
IFIP General Secretary and IFIP President

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