



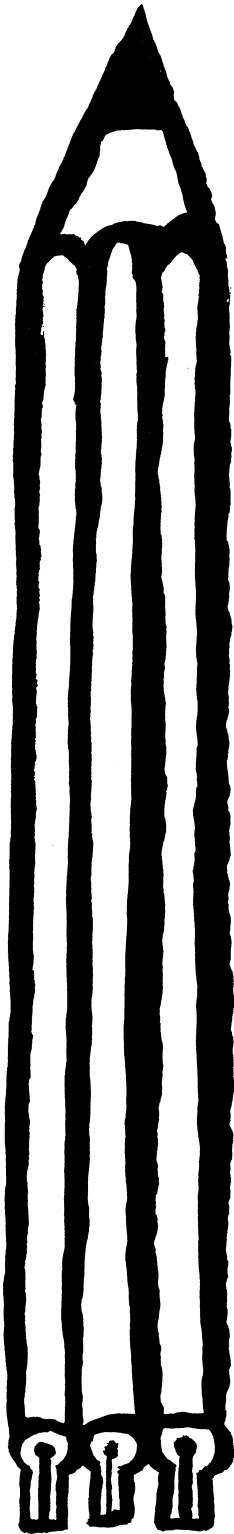
Dear colleagues,

First of all, let me wish you a belated happy 2014. I hope this will be a healthy and productive year for all of you, and I look forward to working together with all of you in order to continue promoting the development of theoretical computer science, broadly construed.

I believe that you will be glad to hear that, since the October 2013 issue of the Bulletin was published, the council of the EATCS has taken a number of steps in order to promote theoretical computer science at large and to support young researchers. To begin with, we have decided that the EATCS will offer some financial support to the EATCS Young Researcher School Series, which will kick off this year with a school on Automata, Logic and Games organized by Tony Kucera.

The council of the EATCS has also approved the establishment of the EATCS Distinguished Dissertation Awards, which will be presented to two outstanding doctoral theses in theoretical computer science starting from 2015. The awards will be accompanied by a small cash prize and the publication of the theses. The selection committee for the first EATCS Distinguished Dissertation Awards consists of Giuseppe Persiano (Italy, chair), Javier Esparza (Germany), Fedor Fomin (Norway) and Luke Ong (UK), who will be working on preparing the call for nominations in the spring 2014, so that it can be ready for distribution at ICALP 2014.

The council of the EATCS has also approved a two-year sponsorship for the open-access



journal *Logical Methods in Computer Science (LMCS)*. The LMCS journal is completely free for authors and institutions, has existed since 2002 and has been doing very well in terms of attracting high quality papers. In fact, it is a visible example that it is possible to create such journals without charging the authors, while maintaining a high quality. The sponsorship of the EATCS recognizes the sterling community effort of the people behind LMCS at a time when the journal is considering its future operational model.

The council of the EATCS has also approved a short anti-discrimination policy, which you can find at <http://eatcs.org/index.php/anti-discrimination-statement>. Throughout its history, the EATCS has always organized conferences that have provided a discrimination- and harassment-free experience to their attendees, and it will continue to do so in the future.

Talking about conferences, the deadline for submitting papers to ICALP 2014 (Friday, 14 February 2014) is approaching rapidly. I hope that you will submit your best work to the conference and that you are making plans to attend it. Thore Husfeldt and his team at the IT University in Copenhagen are working very hard on the organization of this event, which I am sure will be a memorable one, both scientifically and socially. I remind you that, apart from the invited and contributed talks, ICALP 2014 will see the presentation of the EATCS Award 2014, the Presburger Award 2014 and the Gödel Prize 2014. Moreover, during the conference, we will honour the first group of EATCS Fellows. The committees for all the EATCS awards are currently examining



the nominations from our community and I look forward to hearing their deliberations.

As you know, ICALP 2015 will be held in Kyoto, Japan, and will be co-located with LICS 2015. I am glad to inform you that the PC chairs for ICALP 2015 will be Bettina Speckmann (Track A), Naoki Kobayashi (Track B) and Magnús M. Halldórsson (Track C). I wish these colleagues the best of luck for their work. As usual, the call for papers for ICALP 2015 will be ready for distribution at ICALP 2014.

I hope that you will appreciate the steps that the council of the EATCS has taken on several fronts, even though there is still much more that we could be do if we had suitable resources. I am truly grateful to our institutional sponsors and to our members for their support over the years. If you are not already a member, I hope that you will join the EATCS and encourage your colleagues and students to do so. The EATCS membership fee is low and, by becoming a member, you will contribute to the activities of our organization and will support the development of theoretical computer science, broadly construed.

As usual, let me close this letter by reminding you that you are always most welcome to send me your comments, criticisms and suggestions for improving the impact of the EATCS on the theoretical-computer-science community at president@eatcs.org.

I look forward to hearing from you.

*Luca Aceto, Reykjavik, Iceland
February 2014*