Dear colleagues,

As you know, the EATCS is about to hold its first ever ICALP conference outside Europe. The 42nd ICALP will take place in the period 4-10 July 2015 in Kyoto, Japan, and will be co-located with the 30th Annual ACM/IEEE Symposium on Logic in Computer Science (LICS 2015).

ICALP 2015 had the largest number of submissions in history (507) and the largest ever number of submissions for Track A (327). Moreover, all tracks received many submission of very high quality. The PCs for the three tracks, which were expertly led by Bettina Speckmann (Track A), Naoki Kobayashi (Track B) and Magnús M. Halldórsson (Track C), did an amazing job in selecting an exciting conference programme. So, despite the difficult economic climate, it seems that the decision to hold the conference in Japan in co-location with LICS was a good one to take at this moment in time. Moreover, I feel that it is also a long-overdue sign of recognition of the important role that the Japanese Chapter of the EATCS plays in the life of our association and for theoretical computer science in general, and of the growing status of TCS research in Asia as a whole. The EATCS is firmly rooted in Europe, but is an association with members from all over the world. In fact, I would dearly like to see more members from extra-European countries and I encourage TCS researchers from all over the world to join the EATCS. I hope that, with your help and support, our association can play an

even more important role in the development of TCS across the world.

I am very grateful to Masahito Hasegawa, Kazuo Iwama and their team for the extraordinary work they have done in organizing ICALP/LICS 2015 and for the support they have received from the Japanese community at large. In particular, on behalf of the EATCS, I gratefully acknowledge the financial support of the ERATO Kawarabayashi Large Graph Project (grant holder: Ken-ichi Kawarabayashi), of the project Exploring the Limits of Computation (grant holder: Osamu Watanabe), of the Research Institute for Mathematical Sciences (RIMS), Kyoto University, and of the Tateisi Science and Technology Foundation. Thanks to the sponsorship received by the organizers, the early registration fee for members of the EATCS attending ICALP/LICS 2015 was of $45,000$ JPY (roughly 320 Euros), which, by today's standards, is very low for a five-day event.

Note that ICALP 2015 and LICS 2015 are truly co-located events. The two conferences will take place in the same week and at the same location. There is only one registration fee and conference participants will be able to attend whatever session they fancy at either conference. The seven invited talks, the three invited tutorials and the award session, as well as the coffee and lunch breaks, will be plenary events at which participants in both conferences will congregate and mingle. Moreover, an ICALP Masterclass held by Ryuhei Uehara will celebrate Japan's fascination with puzzles, following on the footsteps of the very

*successful masterclass on mathematical
puzzles held by Peter Winkler at ICALP 2008
in Reykjavik.*

*Since ICALP and LICS span the whole
spectrum of theoretical computer science,
in my admittedly biased opinion ICALP/LICS
2015 will be a veritable "theory festival"
with a mouthwatering scientific menu. I
invite you to look at
www.kurims.kyoto-u.ac.jp/icalp-lics2015/
for details on the conference programme,
the invited talks and invited tutorials.
As usual, a report on the conference will
be published in the October 2015 issue of
the Bulletin. I also hope that there will
be some coverage of the event on the blogs
devoted to theoretical computer science. I
will issue a call for guest bloggers on my
professional blog myself.
Apart from the invited and contributed
talks, ICALP 2015 will feature the
presentation of the EATCS Award 2015 to
Christos Papadimitriou and of the
Presburger Award 2015 to Xi Chen.
Moreover, during the conference, we will
honour the EATCS Fellows class of 2015, who
are*

- *Artur Czumaj (University of Warwick,
  United Kingdom) for "contributions to
  analysis and design of algorithms,
  especially to understanding the role of
  randomization in computer science";*

- *Mariangiola Dezani-Ciancaglini
  (University of Torino, Italy) for
  "distinguished and seminal achievements
  in formal methods and foundations of
  programming languages, introducing or
  developing new type systems for the*

lambda-calculus as well as for the pi-calculus and related calculi";

- *Thomas A. Henzinger (Institute of Science and Technology Austria) for "fundamental contributions to formal verification and synthesis of computer and biological systems";*

- *Dexter Kozen (Cornell University, USA) for "pioneering and seminal work in fields as diverse as complexity theory, logics of programs, algebra, computer algebra and probabilistic semantics"; and*

- *Moshe Y. Vardi (Rice University, USA) for "fundamental and lasting contributions to the development of logic in computer science and exceptional services to the community of theoretical computer science."*

Last, but not least, the EATCS Distinguished Dissertation Award Committee 2015 has selected the following three theses for the EATCS Distinguished Dissertation Award for 2015:

- *Karl Bringmann, "Sampling from Discrete Distributions and Computing Fréchet Distances",*

- *Michal Skrzypczak, "Descriptive set theoretic methods in automata theory" and*

- *Mary Wootters, "Any errors in this dissertation are probably fixable: topics in probability and error-correcting codes".*

On behalf of the EATCS, I heartily thank the members of the award, dissertation and fellow committees for their work in the selection of this stellar set of award recipients and fellows. It will be a great honour to celebrate the work of these colleagues during ICALP 2015.

If this weren't enough, the programme for ICALP/LICS 2015 will also include a session to celebrate the 40th anniversary of the journal Theoretical Computer Science. As part of that session, Christos Papadimitriou will deliver a presentation on the past, the present and the future of Theoretical Computer Science. I look forward to Christos' presentation.

Even though ICALP 2015 has not taken place yet, we are already busy preparing future editions of the conference. As you may know already, ICALP 2016 will be held in the period 11-15 July 2016 in Rome. Italy. The PC chairs for the conference will be Yuval Rabani (Hebrew University Jerusalem, Israel) for Track A, Davide Sangiorgi (University of Bologna, Italy) for Track B and Michael Mitzenmacher (Harvard University, USA) for Track C. The preliminary call for papers for the conference will be available in Kyoto. Moreover, during the general assembly at ICALP 2015, we will examine a bid to host ICALP 2017 in Warsaw, Poland, and choose the location for ICALP 2017. I am also happy to inform you that our colleagues in Prague are working on a bid for hosting ICALP 2018.

Apart from ICALP, the EATCS is becoming increasingly involved in many initiatives
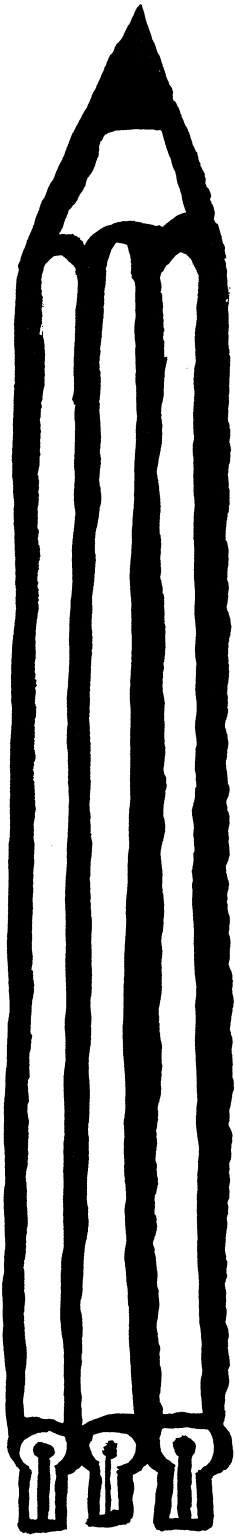
and uses its financial resources to support young researchers and meritorious activities in Theoretical Computer Science as a whole. We try hard to give back to the community what our members provide via their membership fees. By way of example, I remind you that the second EATCS Young Researcher School will be devoted to Understanding COMPLEXITY and CONCURRENCY through TOPOLOGY of DATA *and is organized by Emanuela Merelli at the University of Camerino, Italy, in the period 13-22 July 2015. Moreover, we have decided to provide some modest financial support to the Conference on Computational Complexity (CCC) and to the Symposium on Computational Geometry (SoCG).*

The above-mentioned activities are just a sample of the increasingly many ones in which the EATCS is involved. In addition, we have stipulated reciprocity agreements with the European Association for Computer Science Logic and the ACM Special Interest Group on Logic and Computation. Later this year, we also hope to be in a position to issue the first call for nominations for a new major prize in TCS in cooperation with ACM Special Interest Group on Logic and Computation, the European Association for Computer Science Logic and the Kurt Gödel Society.

As usual, let me remind 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 seeing many of you in Kyoto for ICALP 2015 and to discussing ways of improving the impact of the EATCS within

the theoretical-computer-science community
at the general assembly.

Luca Aceto, Reykjavik, Iceland
June 2015