IFIP TC1 Annual Report

Title: Annual Report IFIP TC1
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The IFIP TC1 is an internationally active committee that aims at supporting the development of theoretical computer science as a fundamental science aiming at:

(i) understanding the information processing world,
(ii) developing adequate methodology and technology,
(iii) exploring fundamental concepts, models, theories, and systems,
(iv) bridging theory and applications and developing bridges to other sciences and their applications.

The main scientific activities of TC1 are presently centered around the following working groups (see also http://www.ifip.org/bulletin/bulltc/memtc01.htm):

- WG 1.1 - Continuous Algorithms and Complexity
- WG 1.2 - Descriptional Complexity
- WG 1.3 - Foundations of Systems Specification
- WG 1.4 - Computational Learning Theory
- WG 1.5 - Cellular Automata and Discrete Complex Systems
- WG 1.6 - Term Rewriting
- WG 1.7 - Theoretical Foundations of Security Analysis and Design
- WG 1.8 - Concurrency Theory
- WG 1.9 - Verified Software

The main conference TCS 2014,

8th IFIP International Conference on Theoretical Computer Science,

took place in Rome, September 1-3, 2014; co-located to Concur 2014. It was open for papers in all areas of Theoretical Computer Science and organized around the following two tracks:

Track A: Algorithms, Complexity and Models of Computation,
Track B: Logic, Semantics, Specification and Verification.

The IFIP TC1 Business Meetings 2014 took place in Rome on August 31. Here is the summary of this meeting:

2014 Business Meeting of IFIP TC-1 took place in Rome in two sessions: one on 31 August with 11 attendees, one on 4 September with 5 attendees. 16 members of TC1 sent apologies.

The meeting started with two obituary talks for Alberto Bertoni and Wilfried Brauer who passed away this year.

News from TC1

1. Four new national representatives, two new WG chairs.
3. TCS 2014 organisation. Thanks to the efforts of the PCs and their chairs, a successful edition (76 submissions, 26 accepted papers, 45 participants).
4. Still no secretary for TC1. Urgent to find one.

News from IFIP

1. IFIP AICT series published by Springer. Discussion about monitoring quality is ongoing.
2. Digital Library. Decision about a new tender is being taken very soon.
3. Marketing. A company is contracted to survey the opinion about IFIP in order to increase its visibility.

News from WGs

Reports from 7 out of 9 WGs show a lively scientific activity. WG 1.4 has not shown any sign of life for the past 2 years; action should be taken to establish its activeness or otherwise to abandon it.

Main discussion points

1. A new domain has been open for TC1: ifip-tc1.org. Additions/corrections in the new web page welcome.
2. TC1 has received a proposal for a new WG on `String Algorithms and Applications'. All expressed opinions very supportive. Vote unanimously positive. [TC1 chair thus proposed the creation of the WG at the following Technical Assembly (11 September) which voted positively. The next day, IFIP General Assembly decided the creation of WG1.10.]
3. Financial behaviour of WGs. Long discussion on the paradoxical situation resulting from the active WGs which declare no IFIP events. The invoked reasons are the cost and the bureaucracy. The result is the lack of visibility and the difficulty of participating to financial resources from IFIP. It has been agreed to establish a one event per year practice with a clear policy of cost return and improved information on procedures.
4. TCS 2016 Reproducing a TCS conference in the existing form in 2 years is possible but cannot be expected to become a big success. It seems more interesting to organise a federated conference of WGs but it would require clear commitment of all WGs and the project should be launched soon.

Planning for future events

1. Next business meeting to be held preferably earlier in the year. Possible co-locations: STACS, ETAPS, ICALP-LICS. Doodle to be open in fall. Project of having two Business Meetings: one in Europe in spring, and one in Asia, co-located either with ICALP or with WCC.
2. TC1 chair election is to be held in 2015 (term of present chair ends 31 December). Call for nominations to be sent in fall. Election process to be completed by next Business Meeting.